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THE SPECTATOR

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Cathie Black to Speak at Commencement Ceremony

President of Hearst Magazines and best-selling author to receive honorary degree with Adams, Chopp & Scott '61

by Ezra A. Rosenberg '10
News Editor

This May, Cathie Black will take a break from managing magazines such as *Cosmopolitan*, to send the Class of 2009 into the real world. Black, president of Hearst Magazines, will deliver the annual commencement address on Sunday, May 24, at 10:30 a.m.

The *Financial Times* called Black "one of the leading figures in American publishing over the past two decades." She heads Hearst Corporation's magazine division, one of the world's largest publishers of monthly magazines, and manages the finance and development of some of the industry's best-known titles: *Esquire*, *Redbook*, *The Oprah Magazine*, *Popular Mechanics*, and *Town & Country*.

Black is known for her book *BASIC BLACK: The Essential Guide for Getting Ahead at Work (and in Life)*, which reached number one on the Wall Street Journal Business Books list and number three on the New York Times Business Books List in Nov. 2007. According to Black's biography, her book provides "valuable lessons about ambition, self-confidence, and risk, illustrated by candid, funny personal stories and with insights into media and business."

Black has extensive media experience from her eight successful years success at *USA Today*, where she was president, then publisher, as well as a board member and executive vice president/marketing of Gannett, *USA Today's* parent company. In 1991 she became president and CEO of the Newspaper Association of America, the industry's largest trade group, where she served for five years before joining Hearst. Black is a graduate of Trinity College, Washington, D.C., and holds nine honorary degrees.

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Financial Aid Up as College Cuts Costs

by Olivia B. Waxman '11
News Writer

Student financial aid will not get slashed next year as departments and offices campus-wide are making cutbacks to reduce endowment spending. In fact, the 2009-2010 operating budget, approved by the Board of Trustees in February, reserves $24,563,000 for financial aid—up from the existing $23,325,000—to cover current families and attract new students.

According to a survey conducted by the National Association of Independent Colleges at the end of last year, 93 percent of its 372 members were "greatly or moderately concerned about preventing a decline in student enrollment." In her presentation to the Student Assembly on March 9, Karen Leach, vice president of Finance and Administration, acknowledged that Hamilton's foremost commitment is to "keep current students here." So far, the college has "re-packaged" financial aid for 43 current families.

"Just as Hamilton is faced with unprecedented fiscal pressure, we recognize that our families face similar challenges," Acting President and Dean of Faculty Joe Urgo wrote in a letter to Hamilton parents last month. "The growth in the financial aid budget is larger than the increase in the comprehensive fee to reflect the greater need that we anticipate many of our families may demonstrate during these difficult times."

To balance out the budget in light of the increase in financial aid, every department and office has been asked to make a four percent cut, which amounts to a $650,000 reduction in operating costs across the board. Yet Leach anticipates these changes will "be relatively invisible to students."

The Math Department, for instance, is reducing its copying costs by utilizing the less expensive copiers in the Print Shop and saving paper by posting homework assignments online and limiting exams to one-page instead of the typical seven-to-nine pages.

Cutbacks within the Government Department, however, will be more visible to students, according to department chair Stephen Orvis. While a $1,000

see ***College Concerned,*** *page 3*

Hamilton Accepts Class of 2013

College accepts fewest number of applicants in 28 years, seeks to increase diversity among student body

by Russ Doubleday '11
News Editor

While the total number of applicants to Hamilton fell eight percent from last year, this pool, which was still the third largest ever for the college, was the most competitive in history.

Admissions decisions were mailed to the 4,657 applicants on March 27. From all these applicants, 1,371 were accepted, the smallest number of students accepted since 1981. The acceptance rate this year is 29 percent, the third lowest in school history after the last two years, which had a 28 percent acceptance rate.

The SAT scores and high school ranks of the accepted applicants set new records. The average SAT score was 1410 on the 1600 point scale (students scored an average of 710 on the writing section), the highest ever. The old record was 1408, set two years ago. Additionally, 85 percent of admitted students were in the top ten percent of their high school class, the second highest number ever recorded.

With such a strong applicant pool this year, entrance decisions for the Admissions staff were harder than ever before. Students who would normally have received admission were turned down.

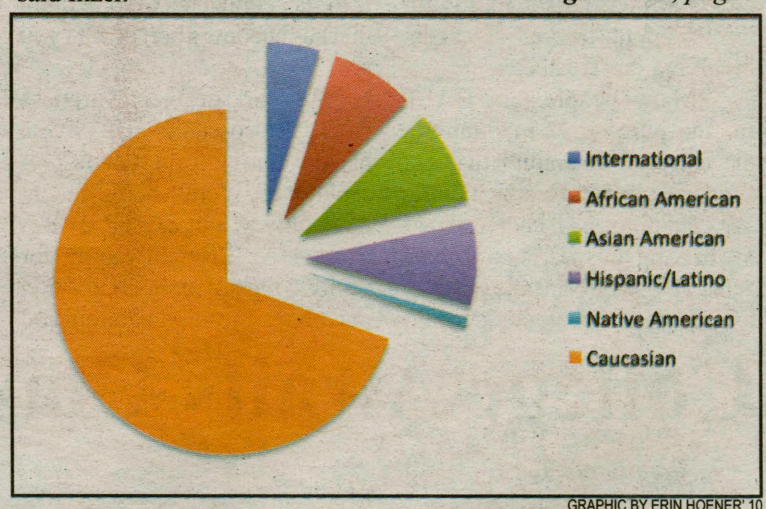
"Before we finalize and mail decisions, we look to see how many applicants we've tentatively slated to admit," stated Monica Inzer, dean of admission and financial aid. "This year we had more than 250 too many admits, more than ever before, and had to spend a weekend in trying to figure out which ones to pull out of the admitted pool."

There were many other factors the Admissions office took into account besides grades and board scores (Hamilton does not require SAT scores on its application). "[We want] students who are a good fit for Hamilton and will contribute to our community in exciting and meaningful ways," said Inzer.

This year's admitted class is one of the most diverse ever. 26 percent of the accepted students are classified as multicultural, an "unprecedented" amount according to Inzer, and another five percent are international students. Accepted students hail from 44 states and 41 different countries.

The College admitted fewer students than it has in 28 years, even though the number of applications received was the third highest on record. The Admissions office has noticed that more people are placing Hamilton as their top choice school, eliminating the need to accept more students than the target class size. As

see ***College Awaits,*** *page 2*

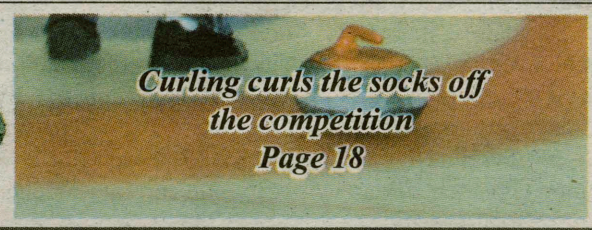


GRAPHIC BY ERIN HOENER '10

This chart shows the diversity of the accepted class of 2013.

Frat-Party Fallout: *Page 3*

Choir tour visit the Vatican Page 12



Curling curls the socks off the competition Page 18

HALT Awareness Week Focuses on Future Alumni Connections

by Lauren Moon '10
Features Editor

Every year, the College trains selected seniors to be active alumni (and hopefully active donors) through the Hamilton Alumni Leadership Training (HALT) program. According to program participants, it offers them the chance to gain skills to help enter the professional community, as well as to learn to be a future leader in alumnus activity.

The goal of HALT is to prepare this group to enter the work world confidently and with assurance that the Hamilton community will support and aid in their endeavors. In doing this, the College in turn expects this group of leaders to maintain contact between the College and the newly graduated alumni.

PHOTO BY CHRIS EATON '11

Steph Ryder '09 (who is also the co-chair of the Senior Gift committee) elaborates, "HALTers are students that already have a demonstrated enthusiasm for Hamilton and are active participants on campus. Hamilton teaches us to be leaders, and involvemnent with HALT ensures our ability to lead as alumni."

These students are privy to networking events with other alumni, meetings with deans and administrators, including the President, as well as events involving the Trustees.

"Many people join HALT for the purpose of maintaining the network of alumni that are friends," explains Heather Finney '09. "Hamilton has become part of my life and thus, part of my character. HALT informs me of ways to redefine that characteristic and to stay connected to its source."

Presentations at HALT luncheons have included an informal chat and speech by President Stewart, a presentation from Career Center representatives about networking, an etiquette class taught by field expert Elizabeth Tantillo, as well as gatherings with various Hamilton alumni, and even several Kirkland alumnae.

This year HALT is comprised of 48 seniors including the two co-chairs, Eric Kuhn '09 and Akilah Bond '09.

"This team is working hard this week to promote HALT Awareness Week, getting the word out to supporters of the College as well as to prospective underclassmen," said Kuhn. Members of HALT could be seen wearing t-shirts and inviting people to register for the Alumni Directory. The directory features profiles of Hamilton alumni, including their involvement as a student as well as their career experience and contact information. It is frequently used by the Career Center.

Bond explains, "I have always said that what makes Hamilton special is our community. So, to be connected to our community regardless of where you are through the Alumni Directory is to stay connected to something that has become a part of who you are."

As part of the awareness week, the co-chairs also gave a background informational presentation to members of Student Assembly. Kuhn explains, "Because HALT is really only for seniors, most people do not find out about the organization and all the cool events it throws until the end of their junior year." Thus the idea for a week of publicity proved necessary. Kuhn goes on to explain this week's objective: "the purpose of HALT Awareness Week is for students of all grades to understand the strength of our alumni network and the importance of giving back to the school after graduation."

According to some, not all members of HALT buy into the community building mission of the program. As members often attend exclusive meetings and networking events, some see HALT as a means to securing a lucrative position after college. "It can be disheartening that some have chosen to join HALT as a networking and job-obtaining device," says Finney. "Although part of HALT is to further connect recent Hamiltonians to fellow alumni, the emphasis is not intended to be a career starter." This critique is a means to stress that HALT strives for cohesive community post-graduation, and ought to be used to discover all of the unique memories shared by fellow Hamilton graduates.

Although HALT may be seen to some as a means to an end, participants seem to agree that their knowledge has expanded, their pride in Hamilton unparalleled, and perhaps they have enjoyed a few other perks too.

Allison Gaston-Enholm '09 sums it up, "HALT is a great way to get excited about graduating and becoming a part of the alumni network. I have really enjoyed hearing stories from alumni about the Hill... and catered lunches aren't bad either!"

PHOTO COURTESY OF LINDSAY GETMAN '10

Lindsay Getman '10 (left) abroad at the Colosseum in Rome.

Study Abroad Costs May Strand Students

by Rebekah Mintzer '09
Senior Editor

One of the most exciting aspects of college for many students at Hamilton is spending time studying abroad. However, with the recent changes in the economic climate, there is anxiety in the air about whether American college students will be able to afford the costs of studying abroad this year and in the near future.

There is mixed evidence for a downward trend in study abroad participation so far. Though many students are under financial strain, only some schools appear to be changing study abroad policies in response to limited funds.

As Adrian Beaulieu, dean of international studies at Providence College told Inside Higher Education, "There's clearly an attempt by many of the private colleges already to limit or to restrict the numbers of students eligible to go on study abroad, and this is being done in a number of ways. One is by raising the GPA requirement for study abroad. Several institutions have already done that," he said. Other colleges have eliminated certain program options, and, he said, "some institutions have actually already created, if you will, 'selection committees' to screen study abroad applicants."

Carol Drogus, associate dean of students for off-campus study at Hamilton said, "There has been a lot of discussion among colleges about how the economy will affect study abroad, and many schools are expecting students to change their plans and stay in the US or to opt for short-term study abroad programs rather than going for the semester or year."

Potential costs for study abroad are manifold. There is the cost of the chosen study abroad program itself, airfare, textbooks, meals not provided by the program, and other amenities. The cost of going out in a foreign country may be intimidating compared to the cost of having fun on the weekend at Hamilton. However, for the time being the costs of study abroad do not seem to be deterring Hamilton students.

"Hamilton numbers for the fall are not firm yet since the deadline has just passed, but based on what we're seeing so far, our numbers will be about the same as last fall," said Drogus. "Based on appointments I've had with students planning for spring, I would expect right now that those numbers will also stay about the same."

Most private colleges, Hamilton included, lessen the financial burden of going abroad by making financial aid packages portable for students going abroad. Hamilton's study abroad office works with students who receive financial aid to make going abroad affordable. According to Hamilton officials, they generally can if the student is going on a Hamilton-approved program. Perhaps it is this flexible policy that has helped students continue a tradition of studying abroad.

"When calculating the amount of financial aid a student will receive the following items are considered: tuition, room, board, travel, books, personal misc., and the off-campus fee charged per semester by Hamilton," said Mary Ann Atkinson, assistant director of financial aid. "The program, or host school, provides me with the figures for each item."

According to Drogus, there may be other factors at work in Hamilton's continued study abroad success.

"Most programs (SIT, IFSA-Bulter, IES, etc) have committed to keeping their billed costs (usually tuition and housing) the same for next year," said Drogus. "Plane fares have gone up in the past year. At the same time, the dollar has strengthened against the euro and the pound, so a student's dollars will stretch further in Europe and the UK right now in terms of day-to-day expenses than they did last year."

College Awaits Class of 2013

from ***Hamilton,*** *page 1*

Inzer explained, "students who have demonstrated some genuine or real interest in Hamilton are much easier to advocate for than students for whom we're clearly just an afterthought."

Inzer credits the students on campus for their role in helping to sell the school to prospective students. "We in admissions can only represent the Hamilton that our students, our faculty, and our alumni create and sustain. That so many prospective families are attracted to Hamilton has a lot to do with how positively our current students feel about our community, the success and attractiveness of our curriculum, the degree to which our faculty truly care about their students and develop relationships that extend beyond the classroom, [among other things]. All of that is worth so much more than a pretty picture in a viewbook."

Summer Renovations Scaled Down to $3.5 Mil.

by Julia Mulcrone '11
News Writer

"In the summer months between reunions and when the students get back, there's a 12 week period that we can get in the buildings," Associate Vice President for Facilities & Planning Steve Bellona said. "We call it our 12 week blitz."

During this period, Physical Plant takes advantage of the empty campus to make the necessary renovations and repairs to campus buildings and grounds. An operational budget of $3.5 million has been allotted for all of the renovations. Bellona said, "We normally would try to increase [the budget] by a couple hundred thousand dollars annually; we were hoping it would be $3.75 million. The overarching goal is to continue to add renovation and renewal funds to the annual budget so we get up to a level that's in the $6 to $7 million range." The budget allotted for summer renovation and renewal has remained the same as last year, even with the worsening economic situation that has led to many budget cuts on campus.

Left: Over the last two years, Milbank and Babbit Dormitories have received new kitchens like this one. The new kitchens in Major, Minor and Macintosh will look similar.

Right: old kitchens such as this one in Major will be renovated this summer.

PHOTOS BY CHRIS EATON' 11

One of the most contentious projects for this summer is the demolition of North and South Court buildings. Set for June 15, 2009, the demolition will open up Dunham quad and reduce campus energy use. The Sociology Department, currently housed in these buildings, will move to the Kirner-Johnson Building. The Womyn's Center, which has been actively against this demolition, is planning to move to the Azel Backus House. According to Womyn's Center Executive Board Member Sushmita Preetha '11, "It is supposed to be a temporary space, and we'll get a permanent space once (and if) a new CEC is built."

The studios in List Arts Center will be upgraded to better accommodate art students. Physical Plant intends to upgrade the senior studios and improve ventilation in the printmaking studio and the darkroom. Bellona said, "The long term plan is to construct a new studio arts facility." For now, these minor renovations will have to suffice in an arts center that is, in the opinion of many, no longer adequate for the amount of people interested in art classes at Hamilton. Chair of the Art Department Katherine Kuharic explained, "This building was designed for a small women's college," meaning that space is hard to come by. She is enthusiastic about the possibilities of List through the renovations, however.

Physical Plant has already planned many projects for this summer, including the replacement of the windows, heating systems and stairs of Benedict Hall. Waterproofing the Bristol patio is also planned. The bathrooms and kitchenettes in Major, Minor and Macintosh residence halls will also undergo renovation similar to the work in Milbank and Babbitt in previous years. The Co-Op kitchen and the kitchen at Commons Dining Hall, last renovated in 1998, will also get a facelift.

Large-scale renovations, such as the proposed renovation of Emerson Hall, do not factor into the annual budget. These renovations are often funded by donors and must be approved by the Board of Trustees.

College Concerned About Aid

from ***Financial Aid,*** *page 1*

reduction in the operating budget—e.g. photocopying—can be endured "without any real significant cuts," the reduction in the number of professors will make classes tighter.

"In normal times, we would have had two visiting professors next year, covering for people on leave," Orvis explains. "We were authorized for only one of these. College-wide, only about half of such requests were granted, so we got one out of two, our fair share I guess. The bottom line is we have one less faculty member teaching next year, which means five fewer courses over the year, making Gov dept. courses that much more crowded. I don't think this is outrageous under the circumstances, but it may well be felt by students."

Leach admitted that senior administrators have been more lenient with the Admissions office regarding cutbacks because recruitment is one of the college's biggest revenue generators. Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid Monica Inzer suggested that an increase in the number of visiting prospective students resulted in the need to produce more promotional material materials. "Our costs went up without our being able to control it," Inzer said.

By contrast, Inzer described "strategic" cutbacks to make room for "the things we do that touch students." For instance, the office stopped producing a print edition of the college application and course catalog and instead, mailed postcards that directed students to the Hamilton website to apply, saving $13,000 on postage. In addition, receptions on the road were bagged because they were not "converting" people at a high enough rate. But interviews were, so the office replaced its traditional Fall Open House on Columbus Day with a three-day interview marathon over the holiday weekend, which was "more productive" and not as costly.

"We were able to serve students and families just as well and give them more personal attention," Inzer explains.

Despite a new and improved approach to targeting prospective students, Hamilton still experienced an 8 percent decline in applications for the Class of 2013. But the college stands in good company as application rates dropped 20 percent at Williams College, 12 percent at Middlebury College, and 10 percent at Swarthmore College, according to Bloomberg News. "I never thought I'd be excited about a decline in application rates, but compared to many of our peers, we are faring better," Inzer exclaimed.

Concerns about student enrollment have prompted Admissions to become more vocal about the close attention paid to applicants' ability to pay during the decision-making process. According to Leach's presentation, a goal "threatened" by the economic downturn is the college's ability to be "need-blind," or to evaluate students without considering their financial situation. But Inzer counters that the Admissions office has always been "need-aware" and was cognizant of students' finances long before the economy tanked. Last year, seven percent of decisions were affected by a student's ability to pay, and already this year the office has gone over budget, resulting in a weekend spent shaving 270 admits from the accepted students pool. "We've never tried to sugarcoat this factor because we want to continue to be able to meet 100 percent of a family's need," Inzer adds.

She justifies maintaining a sizable financial aid budget as essential to preserving the college's "long history of socio-economic diversity." But keeping the Hill solvent as the economy continues to go downhill takes precedence over a need-blind admissions policy. "Ideally, because we're a public good, we want to be able to say all deserving students can come," Leach declares. "We haven't been able to do that yet, but we are working towards that goal."

NUMBER OF "ACCEPTABLE" STUDENTS REJECTED DUE TO FINANCIAL LIMITATIONS:

270

2009-2010 OPERATING BUDGET:

↑

$1.2 MILLION

OPERATING COSTS FOR ALL OTHER DEPARTMENTS:

↓

4%

Frat Party Protest

by Patrick Hodgens '09
Production Editor

Delta Phi's annual Mexican Night party has come under fire: according to some students, the party's theme and advertising are offensive. Protesting students have called for a boycott of the party.

Protest organizers e-mailed this statement:

"Flyers have been circulating around campus showing at first glance what appears to be a small joke, but in reality it a tasteless comment on a serious issue and a poor reflection on Hamilton College. A piñata is seen in front of a soldier and the U.S. border. However, after looking closely, a ladder can be found under the piñata indicating that people have climbed into it. Thus, it can be concluded that the image in the advertisement is a representation of the traditional "Trojan Horse" story we all know. However, here, a piñata replaces the hollow wooden horse in order to allow the illegal immigrants access to the United States. Apart from the discriminating image, the statement "proper documents required" can be read on the left hand side of the flyer. The content of this flyer refers to a serious issue that costs thousands of people their lives and cannot be taken lightly. Please join us in boycotting the 'Mexican Night @ The Annex.'"

Organizers said that "a number of students upset and offended by the flyer advertising the party… include[s], but is not limited to representatives from Alpha Chi Lamda, Black Latino Student Union, The Brothers, Lambda Upsilon Lamba, No More Deaths, Rainbow Alliance, Rhyme Lab, Salsa Candela, Sigma Lambda Upsilon, Social Justice Initiative, Tropical Sol and Womyn's Center."

Delta Phi President Wally Greene '10 defended the event. "It's a party…it's not meant to be offensive…We apologize if we've offended anyone, this is all meant to be in fun," Greene said. "'Mexican' is a theme, we're not meaning to attack anyone."

The protest has been organized through a Facebook event page, "Boycott Mexican Night @ The Annex." A heated discussion has evolved on the group's board, with some students and alumni criticizing the party while others defend it.

"We see this as [fun]," said Greene. "[We're] not seeking to degrade anyone."

Greene invited those who are offended by the party's theme or advertising to contact him to discuss the issue.

Delta Phi has had a Mexican themed party since 1957, according to fraternity members.

IMAGE FROM DELTA PHI INVITATION

This image appeared on the Delta Phi "Mexican Night" party advertisement. Some students have called the image and the party theme offensive and in poor taste.

ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF HOLLY FOSTER

Colgate President Rebecca Chopp & Trustee Stuart Scott '61

Degrees on the Way

from ***Cathie Black,*** *page 1*

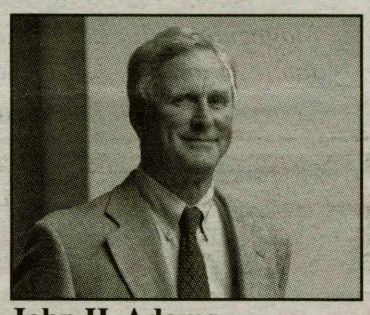
Three additional honorary degrees will be awarded as part of the commencement ceremony in May. The first degree will be awarded to John H. Adams the founding director and former president of the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC). NRDC is a non-profit organization comprised of public interest lawyers focused on the formation and enforcement of emerging environmental laws. It has 1.2 million members and online activists nationwide to protect people, the places they live and the natural resources we all depend on.

Rebecca Chopp, president of Colgate University since July 2002, will make the short trip on Route 12B to receive an honorary degree in recognition of her achievements over the past seven years, which includes the development of the most successful fundraising campaign in Colgate's history which raised the $400 million goal. Chopp will be leaving Colgate this summer to become president of Swarthmore College effective July 1, 2009.

Stuart Scott '61, chairman of the College's Board of Trustees from 2002 to 2008 will be the last honorary degree recipient. Scott was first elected to the board as an alumni trustee in 1985 and became a charter trustee in 1989. He served as chairman of the Campaign for the '90s, the Annual Fund and headed the trustee Committee on Residential Life.

Under his leadership as board chair, Hamilton's endowment surpassed $750 million and more than a dozen new facilities were completed.

This year's commencement speaker Cathie Black follows in the footsteps of previous speakers including former U.S. Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson, President of the Council on Foreign Relations Richard Haass and former Iowa Governor and current U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack '72.



John H. Adams

Hamilton Mock Trial Team Takes on National Competition

by Alicia Wright '10
News Writer

The Mock Trial team earned an invitation to present their case at the Mock Trial Opening Round Championship in Easton, PA. While the members of the team held their own throughout the March 13-15 event, they also ended up learning a thing or two from some of the best collegiate orators in the country. Representing Hamilton College were nine students total: Larry Allen '09, Casey Green '09, Teddy McBride '10, Evan Klondar '11, Mike Nguyen '11, Antonia Farzan '11, Tyler Roberts '12, Caitlin Tuten-Rhodes '12 and Julia Goldstein '12 competed in the tournament.

Hosted by Lafayette College, the competition was held in the Northampton County Courthouse because the college preferred the realistic atmosphere of the courthouse rather than a space on the campus.

Hamilton competed in four trials against Penn State, Iona, Howard and Holy Cross. The team closed out the competition with a record of 1-6-1. According to team members, this year's competition was harder than previous national competitions. "I was on the National Team last year as well, Nguyen said, "and I can say that this year's case was more difficult."

At every mock trial tournament, teams participate in four rounds of trials. In each round, teams are scored by two judges, who give teams points based on the quality of their witnesses, lawyers and arguments. A total of 140 points can be awarded; teams win by receiving more points than an opponent. The Hamilton team lost four of its eight ballots by a combined six points, a sign of the competitiveness of the team. Said Klondar, "it was tough losing so many close rounds, but a big part of the competition is learning and growing as a team."

Even though the team did not win the competition, the students take pride in the work and performance they exhibited in Pennsylvania. "Hamilton's really stands out from other schools' teams because we don't take ourselves too seriously and try and have fun at competitions," Allen commented. "Even though we didn't win, we had to do some things in the competition that we hadn't prepared for," he added, "and even doing them completely cold we performed better than a lot of teams we went against."

The students recalled that the competitive nature at this event took on a much fiercer tone. "Since teams had to qualify to be at this competition," Roberts said, "they were all well prepared and performed at a high level." However, as Allen noted above, while the Hamilton team worked hard to deliver its best cases possible, the students remembered to enjoy the experience.

Roberts commented on the benefit of competing against these strong teams. "It was helpful to face strong teams because we can learn some techniques that they use and apply them in the future," he said.

"After practicing twice a week every week since the beginning of the year," said Nguyen, "I had mixed feelings knowing Mock Trial was coming to an end." However, the team looks forward to the upcoming year of competition. Allen is one of two seniors from this Mock Trial team, and one of five from the entire 22 member Mock Trial program. The team is young and already achieving major successes just by qualifying for the national competition. The entire team has high goals set for the future of Hamilton Mock Trial.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MIKE NGUYEN '11

The mock trial team poses in the courtroom at nationals.

Student Assembly

by Eve Denton '12
Student Assembly Correspondent

Campus Dining:
Pat Raynard, general manager of Bon Appétit met with Student Assembly to discuss the fourth Student Voice food survey, which was sent by e-mail to all students. Over 500 students have participated in the survey so far, which ends on Friday, April 3. In addition, they hope to form a student group to examine the data and think of possible changes to the dining service next year. There has been some confusion over what the Green Café refers to in the survey. It is McEwen Dining hall. Students interested in joining this committee should email food@hamilton.edu.

Elections:
Student Assembly elections are quickly approaching. All students interested in running should collect the signatures of 50 fellow classmates; those running for Class President must turn in their signature sheets by April 10 at noon, with elections to be held on April 21. Students interested in running for all other positions should turn in their signature sheets by April 17. Elections for the general race will be held April 28. Students should abstain from campaigning until they have attended a briefing meeting.

Technology:
The Technology Committee is continuing Hamilton's participation in the EDUCAUSE Center for Applied Research survey sent to all first years and seniors earlier this year. A focus group regarding the survey will be happening April 16 throughout the afternoon, and students of all grades are welcome to attend. Sign ups are available online.

Diversity and Accessibility:
A trip has been planned by the Diversity and Accessibility Committee to New York City on April 11. It will leave early in the morning and return to campus after midnight. The committee is currently deciding between two plays – Distracted, with Cynthia Nixon, or Waiting for Godot, with Nathan Lane.

40 Years of Women on the Hill

by Haley Riemer-Peltz '12
News Writer

This weekend commemorates the 40th anniversary of Kirkland College's establishment. The Celebration of 40 Years of Women on the Hill will take place this Saturday, April 4, with programs highlighting Kirkland's legacy and its lasting impact on the Hamilton community.

The first event on the schedule is "The Four Decades" discussion, with an introduction from Acting President and Dean of Faculty Joe Urgo. There will be panelists from all four decades, including Tami Aisenson K'75, Mel Chesnut-Tangerman '82, Sara Shapiro Harberson '97 and Ann Horwitz '06, along with current student Emma Woods '09.

These women represent a broad range of experience on and beyond the Hill. After majoring in dance at Kirkland, Aisenson went on to law school and spent most of her career as an assistant district attorney New York County. Chestnut-Tangerman, who was involved in a number of musical groups on the Hill, now teaches music at an independent day school and tours with a professional vocal ensemble. Haberson worked in the admissions office at the University of Pennsylvania and now serves as the vice president for enrollment management and dean of admission at Franklin and Marshall. Horowitz received a Fulbright grant to teach English in Indonesia during the summer following her graduation. Woods spent the spring semester of her junior year at the University of Amsterdam, and is currently in the process of completing a year-long sociology thesis, concerning the feminist identity and the work-family conflict.

The discussion, to be held in the Kirner-Johnson Auditorium, will be moderated by the Elizabeth J. McCormack Professor of English, Margaret Thickstun. Urgo came up with the idea for the event and Jennifer Potter Hayes '73 handled the organization.

The second program will consist of current faculty members and alumni exploring the era of "The Kirkland Generation." The program was developed and organized by Liz Horwitt Putnam K'73. Panelists will include Frank Anechiarico '71 (the current Maynard-Knox Professor of Government and Law), Peter Arturi '75, Maureen Fellows '80, Jennie Morris K'72 and Lars Nielsen '77. Shelley Cowan K'75 will be moderating the discussion in the KJ Auditorium.

"The panel spans the ten years of Kirkland's existence, and an on-line questionnaire was completed by selected Hamilton [contemporary] and Kirkland classes," reported Penny Watras Dana K'78.

The official celebration will conclude with a discussion of the Kirkland Endowment in the KJ Auditorium led by Urgo and Vice President for Communications and Development Richard Tantillo.

The Committee for Kirkland College, which has approximately 40 members, directed development of the first two programs. "Our members are most giving of their time and energy, and we are focused on ensuring that the legacy of our alma mater lives on at Hamilton, in a visible and vibrant way," Dana said.

THE SPECTATOR EDITORIAL

Between Us, Our Readers and the Sheets

Are you offended by *The Spectator*'s sex column, "Between the Sheets"? While much of the feedback has been positive and encouraging, the column has been publicly criticized for being offensive and in bad taste.

The editorial board fully supports this column. *The Spectator* is a place to discuss and reflect on issues that are important to students. One of those issues is sex, and we feel that the sex column provides a safe, constructive medium to discuss the subject and demonstrates a healthy and positive attitude towards sexuality.

While we view any criticism as a welcomed opportunity to learn, we believe that the true purpose of a student publication is to accurately portray *student* perspectives on issues that *students* face, something that critics often neglect to consider. Our responsibility is to our peers. Whether we are discussing construction on campus or pubic hair, the student body is the primary audience that we seek to educate and engage. We make our editorial decisions based around student's interests and needs, and we want our paper to be of value to them.

Of course, we realize that students are not the only people reading the paper. We know that the paper's distribution extends beyond this primary audience and includes faculty, alumni and Clinton community members, and we understand that they may not find much value in a discussion of which music best accompanies sex. However, the broad range of our audience does not require that we alter our content or presentation. If you want to get an inside look at what students are saying, read *The Spectator*. If you want a glossed-over version of the positive news about the College, read the articles put out by the Office of Alumni Relations or the Office of Communications and Development.

We are grateful for the people that read *The Spectator*, including faculty and staff members, alumni, members of the Clinton community and especially the students. It is only because of your interest and feedback that we are able to develop and improve as a publication. We will do so by continuing to print that which we deem necessary to accurately portray the student perspective on student issues, including what goes on between the sheets.

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THE SPECTATOR'S LETTER TO THE EDITOR SECTION IS DESIGNED TO BE A FORUM FOR THE ENTIRE HAMILTON COMMUNITY TO DISCUSS AND DEBATE CAMPUS, LOCAL, NATIONAL AND GLOBAL ISSUES. PIECES PUBLISHED IN THE SECTION EXPRESS THE OPINION OF THE INDIVIDUAL WRITERS, AND ARE NOT NECESSARILY THE OPINIONS OF THE SPECTATOR, ITS EDITORS, OR THE MEDIA BOARD. LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ARE WELCOME FROM ALL STUDENTS, ALUMNI/AE, FACULTY, FRIENDS OF THE COLLEGE AND HAMILTON COMMUNITY MEMBERS. NEVERTHELESS, THE SPECTATOR HAS THE FOLLOWING POLICIES FOR SUBMISSION:

1. Submissions are due by 10:00 p.m. on the Monday before publication. Submissions can be sent by e-mail to spec@hamilton.edu or to the Opinion editors (eklondar@hamilton or aeck@hamilton.edu). The editors reserve the right to refuse any late submissions.
2. Letters should be no longer than 650 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. *The Spectator* will not edit letters for misspelling, poor grammar or diction.
5. *The Spectator* reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
6. If a piece is determined to be libelous, an unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

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OPINION

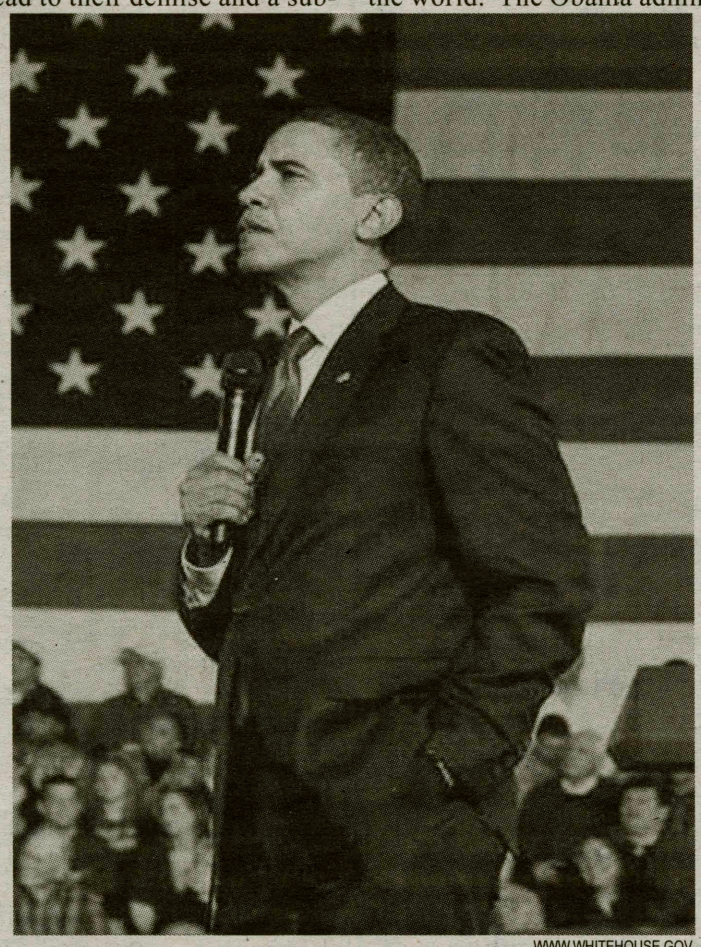
Challenges Lie Ahead for Obama, the Nation

by Sam Gomez '10
OPINION WRITER

We are in a time of crisis. President Obama left on Tuesday to travel overseas for a tour of Europe, the G20 summit, and talks in the Near East. However, the most pressing issues on the President's plate remain on the domestic front. The list of issues that the young president currently faces, both abroad and at home, is exhaustive.

The domestic economic climate is characterized by uncertainty. On Monday, President Obama wisely announced that U.S. automaker General Motors must come up with a viable, drastically restructured plan to deliver on the promises they made when receiving federal money last year. Similarly, the president has also taken a hard-line stance with Chrysler, giving the company an unheard of 30 days to reach an agreement to merge with Fiat. The president's announcement of this on Monday, along with as a G20 draft stating that the global recession could last through the end of next year, sent stocks plummeting.

President Obama's vision of a reinvigorated American auto industry selling futuristic hybrid, electric and hydrogen vehicles may be a little ahead of its time, but it is vision that America needs. Uncertainty about the coming months, combined with the upset that the president's demands have induced in the industry, has have the effect of destabilizing the corporate basis of GM, Chrysler and other automotive companies. If investors fear that this destabilization will lead to failure, then Obama's insistence that American auto companies shape up and modernize could lead to their demise and a substantial job losses to.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However, there is a flip side. If GM and Chrysler are able to restructure, begin to manufacture more efficient vehicles and grab back a larger market share from foreign competitors, President Obama will be hailed as a genius in the future; he could be credited with saving the U.S.'s oldest and most important manufacturing industry.

Conservative radio icon Rush Limbaugh has made waves by publicly stating that he wants Obama to fail, despite the negative consequences of failure for the United States and the world. The Obama administration's transparent spending and budget plan also has many conservative media figures upset. The aggressive budget and trillions of dollars that the administration has already spent as well as the Federal Reserve creating a trillion dollar reserve fund by printing money has some questioning whether or not the President truly knows how to deal with the looming recession and whether or not he will saddle future generations with the debts from his irresponsible spending spree. President Obama's administration would like to be compared to Franklin Delano Roosevelt's New Deal. Democrats believe that their willingness to spend will be the course of action necessary to invigorate the U.S. economy. While that ideology is widely considered sound, Democrats must be cautious as to how much money they are willing to print. If they go overboard in their spending in the name of economic stimulus, then unacceptable inflation, government bond devaluation and an even more oppressive national deficit may result.

The partisan gap is the main dividing line over whether or not Americans agree or disagree with the President's policies, according to recent polls. The Gallup Poll reports that since his inauguration, the president's approval rating with Republicans has dropped from 41 percent to 26 percent. Obama's overall approval rating has dropped from 68 percent upon his inauguration to 61 percent according to the most recent poll. While this drop is not a drastic one, it creates questions about the wisdom of the aggressive set of policies that the fledgling Obama administration has carried into action.

Faced with all of this information, we must ask ourselves: will the Obama administration run out of gas before it gets the chance to affect any real change? Though President Obama is viewed mainly positively internationally, can his favorable ratings hold up at home? Negative stories already abound in American media, especially on the internet. Almost any online news story on president Obama's budget, spending or actions garner intense criticism from conservative bloggers who toss damning accusations and statistics against the President and anyone else who opposes their views. The so-called 'hyper-partisanship' represented by Rush Limbaugh and his following run the risk of further polarizing American politics. These simplistic and naïve viewpoints cause those who hold them to run the risk of falling into political complacency.

The message of hope and change may have been a simple campaign ideology but the important issue remains: will the U.S. stay the course and summon the resolve in order to emerge out of this crisis stronger, leaner and more environmentally sustainable? Only time will tell. However, cautious optimism and a willingness to endure hardship are the responsibilities of every American in these uncertain times. Nay-sayers and prophets of doom have no legitimate place in the current political climate; their actions do nothing but cause our nation to slide farther and farther into the pit of recession and war. I, for one, am certainly hopeful and willing to say that I believe that President Obama is doing the right thing and that he is trying as hard as humanly possible to help our nation overcome this time of hardship.

Thumbs up	Thumbs down	Who cares?
Chicken parm and pizza: together at last.	Asher Roth's "I Love College" sounds a lot more like "I've turned every s***ty college movie ever into a song."	Joan Hinde Stewart spotted in Commons.
Flashing Sarge for shots of jager at the Roc. This may or may not only work for girls.	Now that everything isn't dead and frozen, we are treated to the smell of cow-ass that drifts down from the picturesque farm up the road.	Campus Safety asks the student body to help solve the mystery of "who tagged KJ?" Sure thing! Then, maybe you can help me solve the mystery of "who the f*** is going to pay for all of my parking tickets?"
Spring break: It brings us to dream-like places that are actually warm. Also, it's where standards are shed even faster than the very few layers of clothes people wear.	As the permafrost thaws and the snow melts, Bundy kids begin their seasonal migration to parties up the Hill. This serves to remind us why we banished them down there in the first place.	YODAPEZ: I don't know what you do, but your name sounds like a *Star Wars* character that dispenses candy through through his throat, so... thanks for the Taco Bell.
Military job offers: In this economy, crashing and burning metaphorically just doesn't do it for me.	Easter: The only major holiday that college students haven't discovered an excuse to get drunk for.	A student and a professor go to the Antarctic: Best Vh1 reality show ever, *Glacier of Love*.

by Steve Allinger '09, Jason Brown '09 & Matt Fellows '09

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this column are purely of a satirical nature, and are not representative of the views of *The Spectator* editorial board.

Thumbs Up/Thumbs Down is looking for writers for next year!

Interested? Have questions? There will be a meeting this coming Sunday, **April 5**, at **4:30 p.m.** in **Opus I**.

Prospective writers should submit a Thumbs Up/Thumbs Down column by **Sunday, April 12**. Send all submissions to aeck and eklondar.

Submissions will be printed in *The Spectator* and voted on by the students.

We're looking forward to your entries!

Letters to the Editor

What's dropped into our mailbag this week

To the Editor:

You deserve the thanks of the whole country for publishing the letter from Jay Gormley '01: if only he had been around to tutor Thomas Jefferson in the role the f-word could have played in making matters clear to the dense Brits, or even drafted the Declaration of Independence himself, it would not have been forgotten as the dull and ineffectual artifact it turned out to be.

Mr. Gormley deserves special praise for the following: "It is a true [as opposed to a false! How wise!] fact that every alumni will say 'back in my day' and then hit you with some asinine tail of how thing were 'cooler' in his or her day,..."

Well, many alumni will say that Mr. Gormley should have used the singular for alumni. Picky, picky! All three variants of alumnus exceed by at least two letters the four-letter words which he believes give his prose its singular force and charm, and in the use of which he claims to be expert, so how can blame attach to him?

On the other hand, he certainly means it when he complains about alumni hitting him with "some asinine tail," instead of the possible alternative, "tale": tale and tail are four-letter words, in the use of which the writer does claim competence. Just as we believe that the Philistines were smitten by Samson with an asinine jawbone, Mr. Gormley's readers have to take him at his word when he says that he was whipped by alumni wielding asinine tails. (Maybe he needs to file charges for child abuse.) "Thing were 'cooler'" in the old days? Sure seem like it were. That's why alumni again tempted to reach for their asinine tails know how to cool it now: in contrast to tail and tale, "thing" has five letters, and Mr. Gormley can no more be blamed for the mismatch between single noun and plural verb than for using "alumni" instead of "alumnus" or "alumna.

Now if Mr. Gormley will learn the word merd (French; sp. merde in France) he will be able to consider himself fully bilingual and ready for assignment to France in whatever capacity needed to help clear up all the recent misunderstandings due to the lack of his linguistic skills in our relations with that country.

Regards from AAA (An Asinine Alumni).
Eric von Brockdorff '55

To the Editor:

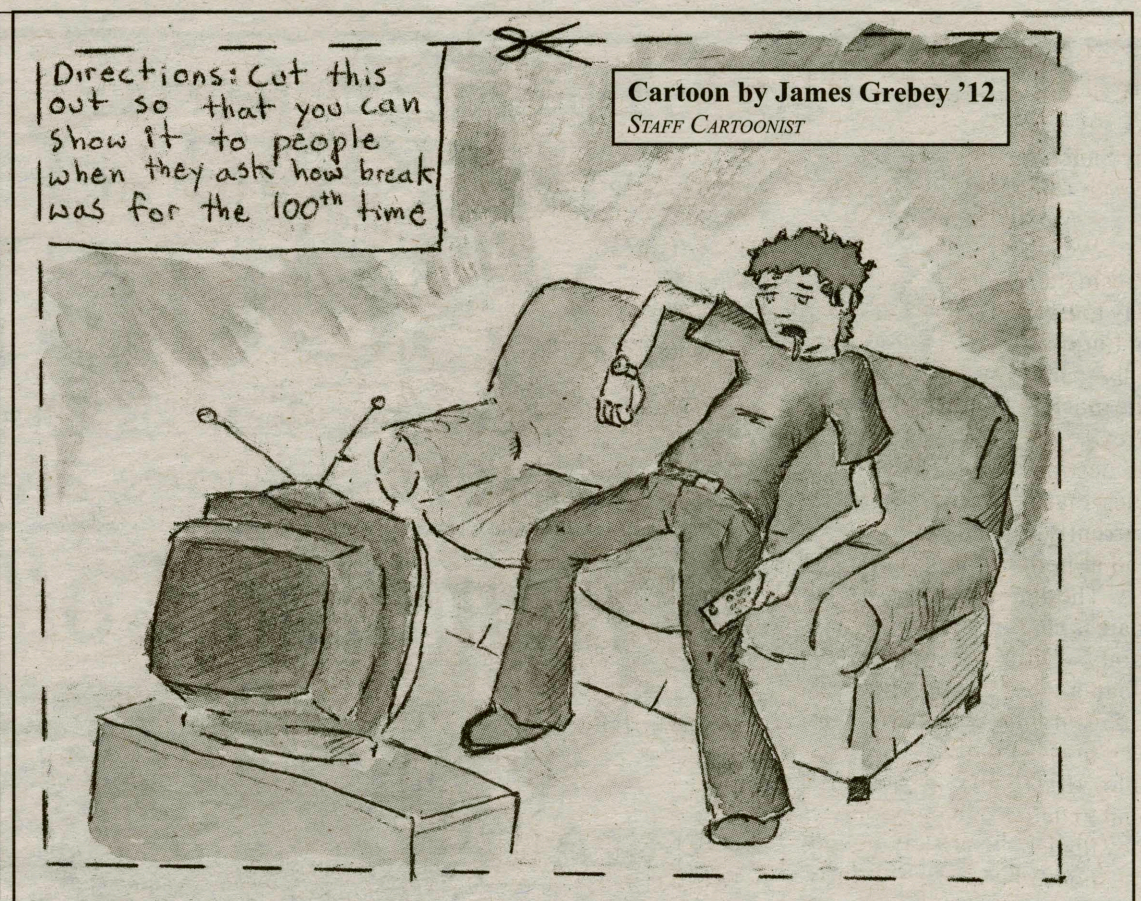
We're writing to acknowledge the concerns raised in "The Substandard Work-Study Promise" editorial in the March 5th edition of The Spectator. We, too, have identified this as an area that needs attention and in which we can and should serve our students better. To that end, starting this past Fall, the Financial Aid and Human Resources Office met to brainstorm options on how best to improve our offerings in this regard.

Our offices plan to assemble a task force, with representation from across campus, to consider the issues and make recommendations for improving Hamilton's student employment process. While this is a complex issue, given how many academic and administrative offices on campus employ students—both Federal Work-Study eligible and non-eligible, we are hopeful that a careful evaluation and coordinated planning process will result in the implementation of an improved program in the future.

Thanks for raising this concern and for your patience as we work on this initiative.

Sincerely,
Melissa A. Rose
Director
Office of Financial Aid

Stephen Stemkoski
Director
Human Resources



Cartoon by James Grebey '12
Staff Cartoonist

God Does Not Play Politics

by Allison Eck '12
OPINION EDITOR

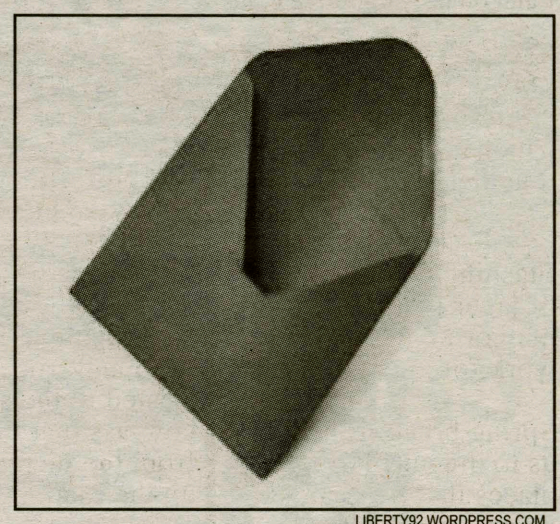
Religion and politics – individually, these two issues foster ardent debate and conflict. Recently, the public has seen an increased fusion of these two areas, and for the most part, politicians and ordinary citizens alike have established that combining religion with politics diminishes people's rights. Oftentimes, it seems that we maintain the divide between spiritual and fiscal policy in everyday life because we know that it is important. But a Hamilton organization has recently violated it, and while any student is entitled to freedom of speech, there comes a point where we need to draw the line.

An all-campus e-mail from the College Republicans was sent out several days ago, urging students to join them in a pro-life cause called "Red Envelope Day." Red Envelope Day aims to collect red envelopes from people, which symbolize their pleas to the President to make abortion illegal. However, the imagery invoked in these envelopes is, according to the cause's website, that of Jesus' blood. The movement that the Hamilton College Republicans has affiliated themselves with is drenched with religious overtones. The website states, "I think it will make a difference because it was done out of obedience to what I thought God was guiding me to do. Any time you obey God you will make a difference."

The Hamilton College Republicans are taking on a religious crusade. But their e-mail, which emphasizes that the initiative is primarily political, claims otherwise. The fundamental problem is not the cause – I don't care that Hamilton students are voicing their opinions on an important issue. More power to them! I don't agree with Red Envelope Day, but that does not give me a right to dictate what other students can say or do regarding this particular issue.

The problem is again one of e-mail privileges and propaganda. The College Republicans cannot automatically assume that each and every Republican is pro-life. For that matter, not every Christian is pro-life! By assuming that every other member of the Hamilton Republican is pro-life, the club alienates those other members. The club also risks losing the respect of other groups that try to accommodate their members' beliefs.

The College Republicans have endorsed Red Envelope Day and are currently persuading anyone who is interested to help them in their efforts. While freedom of speech is a necessary pillar which cannot crumble, student groups on campus need to differentiate between what is truly a political initiative and what is purely a religious belief.



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After Red Envelope Day, What Should Come Next?

by Evan Klondar '11
OPINION EDITOR

In light of Red Envelope Day, a national statement on abortion endorsed by the Hamilton Republicans that mixes the worst of both religion and politics, I'd like to suggest a handful of other Envelope Days students can participate in.

Pink Envelope Day
Pink envelopes flooding the mail would symbolize the 2.6 million pink slips received by Americans during the last year of the Bush administration. That doesn't count the additional 1.35 million jobs lost in the last two months, additional casualties of Republican economic mismanagement.

Black Envelope Day
Because, as Kanye West noted, "George Bush doesn't care about black people." Also, instead of encouraging him to worry about fetuses, this might remind Barack Obama that much of the Gulf Coast is still swampland three years after Hurricane Katrina displaced millions of *living* Americans.

Rainbow Envelope Day
On February 18, 2009, a Republican state senator in Utah, said "And I believe that [gay people], they're probably the greatest threat to America." You can't make this kind of bigoted s*** up. Rainbow envelopes would show all the politicians in D.C. that there are some really stupid people in this country. Those people are keeping down a lot of really great Americans who happen to have a different sexual preference.

Green Envelope Day
These would be sent every time bad weather happens, to protest global warming. Because nothing says "we really care about our environment" like chopping down hundreds of trees and dying envelopes with a probably poisonous pigment. Still, it gets the point across.

Blue Envelope Day
Because red blood runs through your arteries, but blue blood runs through your veins. With red envelope day, only the blood in Jesus's arteries is covered. Blue envelope day covers the veins, too - so both the oxygenated and oxygen-deprived blood of Jesus is represented. Equal opportunity!

White Envelope Day
For those people too cool to participate in any other color of envelope day. You know, the counter-revolutionaries, the people who wear aviators because they're so in style, they're out of style. It's so subtle, those Washington insiders will never even know it's happening.

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Please visit http://www.hamilton.edu/goldsummit/schedule.html for a complete listing of events.
Below are the topics and participating alumnus:

Panel Discussion: Careers, Networking and Employment in the Current Economic Climate
Susan Skerritt K '77, Managing Director - Global Corporate Trust
The Bank of New York Mellon

Alison Meyer '00, Financial Advisor, Morgan Stanley
formerly with Random House Publishing

Kathleen McDonough '93, Assistant Vice President & Marketing Manager
The Chubb Group
formerly with MTV

Warren White '92
Career Transition Consultant
Drake Beam Morin (DBM)

Careers, Networking and Opportunities in the Legal Profession
Julie Ross '84, Professor
Georgetown University Law Center

Peter Arturi '75, General Counsel and Assistant Secretary
Callaway Golf Ball Operations

Alexandra Briggs Stevens '95, formerly Associate, Intellectual Property Group
McCarter & English, LLP

Robert (Bob) J. Gilson '80 P'12,
Division of Law Director/Assistant Attorney General
The State of New Jersey Department of Law & Public Safety
Office of the Attorney General

Careers, Networking and Opportunities in HealthCare & affiliated areas
Andrew Osterman '00, former Project Manager
McKesson
MBA student, Goizueta Business School of Emory University

Jay Gormley '01, Director of Planning & Research
Metropolitan Jewish Health System

Meredith Paddock '06, Staff Assistant
HIV/AIDS Program for Population Council

Anna Arnold '04, Research Coordinator for Parenting and Relationship Transition & Risk Study
Yale University School of Public Health

Rori Dawes '00, Quality Improvement Nurse-Analyst
Caritas Holy Family Hospital

Careers, Networking and Opportunities in Government & Public Policy
Morgan (Miller) Keane '03, Leadership Fellow
The Port Authority of New York & New Jersey

Kaitlin Nelson '01 , Federal Career Intern/Program Analyst
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Jarrel Price '04, Vice President, Government Relations
Height Analytics

Frank Vlossak '89, Principal
Williams and Jensen LLP

Careers, Networking and Opportunities in Sales & Marketing
Kathleen McDonough '93, Vice President - Marketing Manager
The Chubb Group

Abby Tracy '04, Director - Member & Sponsor Relations
The Commonwealth Institute

Warren White '92, Career Transition Consultant
Drake Beam Morin (DBM)

Elizabeth Dolan '05, Associate Director of Marketing & Development
Orr Associates, Inc.

Careers, Networking and Opportunities in Media and Communications
Dzu Bui '00, Campaign Manager
The Advertising Council

Lauren Nelson '02, Senior Editor
ESPN.com

Amanda Gengler '03, Writer
Money Magazine

Liz Horwitt - Putnam K'73, Freelance IT business journalist, and novelist

Alicia Colabella '07, Programming Research Assistant
Comedy Central

David Bolger '99, VP, Communications Planning Director
Mediacom

Careers, Networking and Opportunities in Film and Television
John Hadity '83, Producer
Hadity & Associates (formerly with Miramax Films)

Hamilton students travel the globe, from

Hamilton Choir: Italy

by Geoffrey Hicks '09
Features Contributor

ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF RUSS DOUBLEDAY '11

I traveled to Italy during Spring Break as one of 76 members of the Hamilton College Choir under the direction of Professor of Music G. Roberts Kolb. We went to Rome and Florence, and also visited other towns and smaller cities such as Pisa, Bologna and Arezzo. During our time in Venice and Perugia, I spent most of my free time wandering around alongside the waterways or standing at the summit of some breathtaking peak to take in the overwhelming vastness of the land. We could see scores of honey yellow buildings with roofs made of earth red tiles, and rows and rows of lush green hills and valleys, stretching for miles. I loved the evenings when the beauty of the ancient stone pathways or still Venetian waters evoked an aura of serenity that came so naturally to the region. Normally, I would have had to really make an effort to be immersed in such a way by natural beauty; in Italy, particularly in the quieter and calmer cities, such beauty was everywhere.

The experience of being in Italy was highlighted all the more by our purpose for being there: singing. The music, some of it from the Italian Renaissance, was an integral part of the trip. Even when we were not singing, I could still hear the songs in my head and often sang them out loud. There was no better time to sing "Jubilate Deo (Sing Joyfully to the Lord)" than after a meal of fine Italian cuisine or during a guided tour of one of the various basilicas, cathedrals or palaces, or as we walked joyfully through the streets. In fact, as we did all of these things, we were singing. Someone might begin one of the songs and someone else would say, "I was just humming that in my head!" It usually did not require much external inspiration to incite one and then five and then a dozen or two members of the Choir to begin singing one of the songs from memory. This was how we bonded. This is how we shared Italy with one another.

Music has this power, the power to unify people in an intangible way. Music is spiritual. As a graduating senior, it was very important for me personally to make lasting relationships with people during the Italy tour, and there was no more expedient way to relate to one another than through our music. The Italy tour was an experience that we will never forget.

No More Deaths: Arizona

by Jesse Stromwick '09
Features Contributor

This spring break I, along with 11 other Hamilton students, traveled to southern Arizona. Our purpose was not to get out into the great outdoors, but to volunteer with an organization called No More Deaths. No More Deaths is one of several humanitarian aid organizations providing life saving water, food and medical assistance to migrants coming north from Mexico through Arizona's Sonora desert.

Issues surrounding our border with Mexico are inherently complex. Ranchers living along the border, Border Patrol agents assigned to "securing" our southern border and migrants traveling north looking for seasonal work are all a part of the complicated situation in the Southwest. We came to Arizona in part because we wanted an opportunity to get to know some of the particulars of this situation.

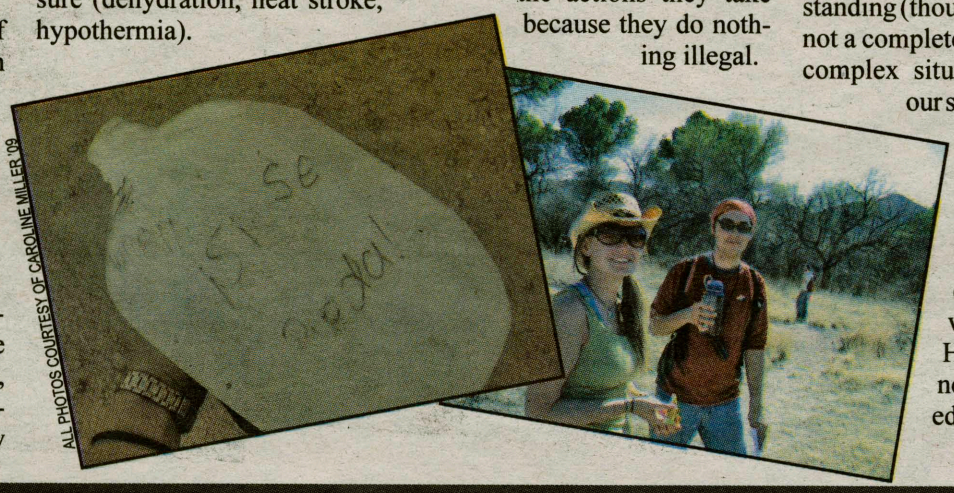
We spent the better part of our week in Arizona camping in the Sonora desert, a mere 15 miles from the U.S. – Mexican border. Every day we headed out to one of the thousands of remote but highly used trails that migrants take to walk north into the U.S. We equipped ourselves with gallon jugs of water and packages of food that we left along the trails at points that, judging by the amount of footprints and debris, were clearly highly trafficked. We got a chance to see and feel the beauty and silence of the Southwest, but that is not all. Through working with No More Deaths we discovered the context of the work we were doing and its crucial need.

A severe economic crisis in Mexico and Latin America has caused (despite the U.S.'s own economic problems) an increase in undocumented people coming north to look for work. At the same time, our government has become stricter about stopping migration into the U.S. from urban areas. This has done little to stop the overall flow of migration into and out of the U.S., but it has pushed migrants to take the much more dangerous journey across America's vast deserts.

As a result of this situation the Sonora desert has seen an increase in deaths due to exposure (dehydration, heat stroke, hypothermia).

No More Deaths was created in response to this humanitarian crisis. The organization was founded on the idea that "Humanitarian Aid is never a crime." A person dying of dehydration has a right to water regardless of their status in this country. This is a basic human right.

No More Deaths does not transport undocumented people into the U.S. and they do not hide migrants from Border Patrol agents. They are a transparent organization that is open about the actions they take because they do nothing illegal.



ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF CAROLINE MILLER '09

For many reasons it is hard to understand the intricacies of the issues surrounding our borderlands. Having always lived in the Northeast, I felt far away and disconnected from the realities of immigration policy. Working with No More Deaths was therefore a phenomenally educational experience. I think my group mates would agree that we all came away with a better understanding (though certainly not a complete one) of the complex situation along our southern border and the very real humanitarian crisis that it is producing. Though our spring break was a break from Hamilton, it was not a break from our education.

Recently built border wall in Sasabe, AZ

I urge the members of the Hamilton community to take time to educate themselves about this important humanitarian, social and political issue. More information about No More Deaths as well as documents that more coherently outline the situation on the border than I ever could can be found at nomoredeaths.org.

Tuscon to Rome, for Spring Break 2009

Alternative Spring Break: Urban outreach, hurricane relief and environmentalism inspire Hamilton students

by Cuffie Winkler '10
FEATURES CONTRIBUTOR

While many students spent their break on sunny beaches, snowy slopes or the comfort of their couches, over 100 students participated in Hamilton's 16th annual Alternative Spring Break (ASB).

The program offers students the opportunity to spend their breaks participating in various types of community service projects throughout the South. ASB provides a valuable alternative to the more typical spring break activities in that it encourages students to give back while simultaneously creating a tightly bonded group of friends through an experience that will stay with them long after they return to campus.

This year was the most popular year yet for ASB at Hamilton. Receiving a record number of applications, the program was expanded to accommodate over 100 participants on ten different trips. The trips ranged from hurricane relief and Habitat for Humanity on the Gulf Coast, to urban outreach in Washington, D.C., to environmental projects in Kentucky and Tennessee. Each trip is one week long, student led and uses Hamilton vans. Participants indicate their preferred type of trip, be it urban outreach, construction or environmental. The groups are selected randomly to ensure diversity.

While climbing into a jitney with ten near strangers seems daunting at first, by the end of the trip it is almost harder to get out of the jitney and disperse to your respective homes across campus. Anyone who has participated would surely agree that the experience was fun, worthwhile and rewarding. The success of all of this year's ten trips bodes well for the future of ASB at Hamilton.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF (CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT) DOUGLAS PAETZELL '09, PAETZELL, EMMA DOMBY '11, PAETZELL

FROM WHERE I SIT
HAMILTON'S INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES

by Lydia Rono '11
FEATURES CONTRIBUTOR

Have you ever thought about being part of Hamilton's Alternative Spring Break program? If you haven't, you might miss something very special. ASB is a Hamilton activity everyone should participate in before graduation.

Two weeks ago, I had a great experience tutoring students at the Burgaw Elementary School in Wilmington, North Carolina. Our group lived at a church about thirty minutes from the school. The weather was nice and warm, and the city was just beautiful. At 8:15 each morning, we would start drive to the school. The road took us through a beautiful part of the country. The sight of the green vegetable farms along the road and the cows resting peacefully in their pens made me nostalgic, as I grew up on a farm in Kenya.

In the school each of the ASB students was assigned a class to tutor. I was tutoring fifth grade students. I was amazed by the discipline the students had and their willingness to learn. Every morning when I entered the classroom, they would greet me and ask me how my night was. The students also took turns holding the door for their classmates at lunch time. This is a tradition that I never saw in my elementary school. Though the teachers were firm in instilling respect and discipline in the students, they were also very kind to them, as well as to us. Class ended at 2:00p.m. every day, after which we would go back to the church.

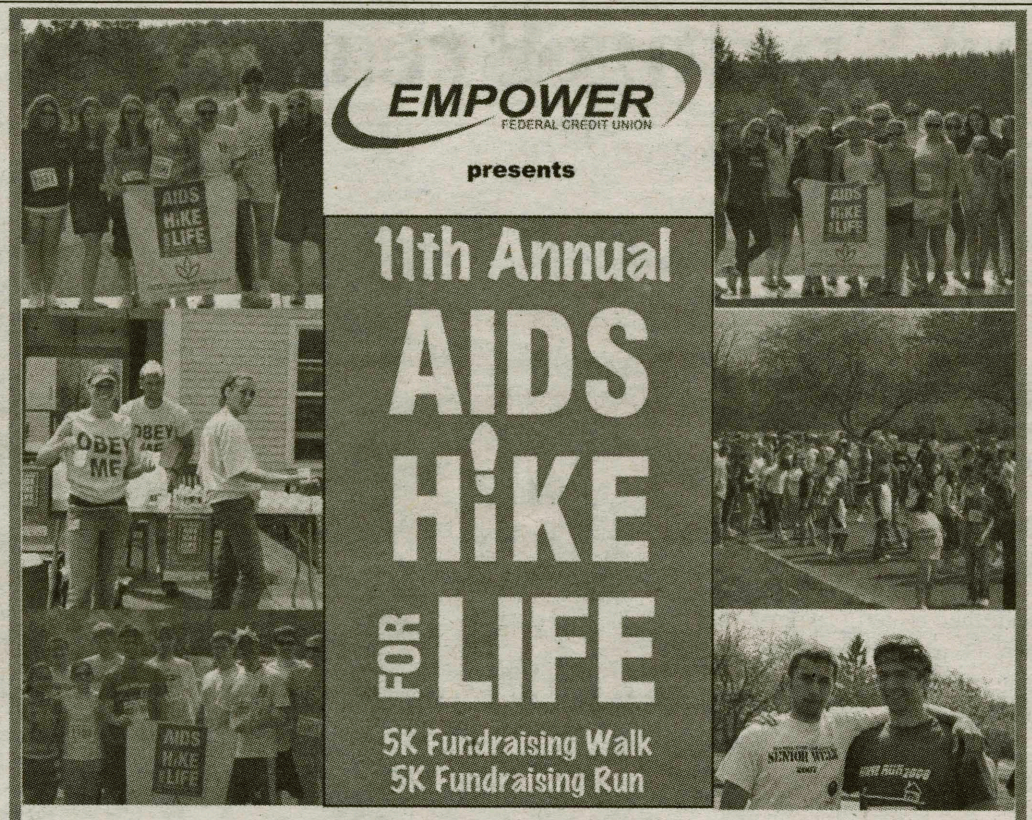
After school, we would keep ourselves busy by doing several activities. One of my favorite activities was going to the beach and jogging along the water's edge. Afterwards, we would spread our towels on the sand and enjoy the ocean breeze cooling us while the warm sun bathed our skin. Staring at the blue sky above us and listening to the rapidly breaking ocean waves, I couldn't stop thanking the founders of ASB for their wonderful idea.

Visiting a Serpentarium was another activity I liked. The museum housed several reptiles living in domiciles made to resemble their natural habitats. A description of each creature was placed on the glass wall that separated the different types of snakes, crocodiles and iguanas from the viewers, making the visit a great learning experience.

I was also amazed by the degree of alumni involvement in the trip. Durwood Almkuist '67, his wife Gloria and Dan Lascell '92, took us to dinner at two local restaurants: an Italian restaurant and a seafood restaurant. One advantage to a seafood restaurant by an ocean is that the delicious fish were still swimming about 15 minutes before they were placed on your plate. Just the thought of it makes everything else seem tasteless. Mary Evans'82, Director of Principle Gifts, also extended her hospitality by welcoming us to a lunch in her home. I am forever thankful to Hamilton's alumni who made our stay in Wilmington so comfortable.

So, if you are worried about being in a strange place for a week, be at ease because someone will make your transition easy. It is surprising how the power of giving has become a Hamilton tradition. If you are not yet in Hamilton's big league of giving, join any volunteer activity. You won't want to be left out of this wonderful tradition.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF (CLOCKWISE FROM BOTTOM LEFT) DOUGLAS PAETZELL '09, EMMA DOMBY '11,



An Important Message from HAVOC

On Saturday, HAVOC is celebrating its 20th anniversary. It's a good chance to learn more about HAVOC, our history, and where we are going. The executive board, site coordinators, and Community Outreach and Opportunity Project will be representing our organization, and will be there to talk about service here at Hamilton. Amy James, Jeff McCarn and Nancy Thompson will be speaking briefly about HAVOC, its mission at Hamilton and the importance of this milestone.

This is HAVOC's 20th year at Hamilton and is a turning point for our organization and the culture of service at Hamilton. This year we officially became a part of the Community Outreach and Opportunity Project, an office headed up by Amy James to strengthen Hamilton's community outreach initiatives. The 2008-2009 year has seen many changes that will ensure HAVOC's continued growth and strength over its next 20 years. These changes include a campaign for aggressive growth in the number of projects we run, a complete overhaul of our website, and improved relations and communication between HAVOC leaders and our volunteers.

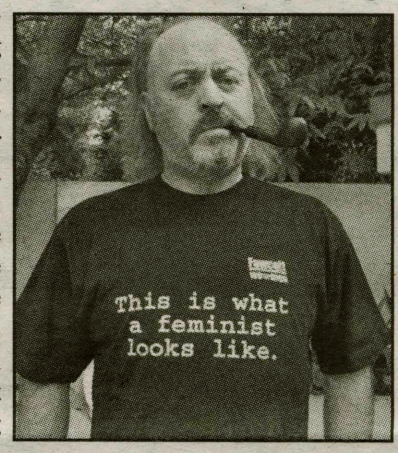
HAVOC is very excited to have come this far and eagerly anticipates facing future opportunities and challenges. Over the past 20 years, HAVOC has worked hard to promote the virtues of service in the Hamilton community. Today there is a very tangible and quickly growing culture of service here on the hill.

-Brian Mizoguchi '11

Saturday, April 4
KJ Aud, second floor
Hors d'oeuvres - Cash bar

by Johanna Pajak '09
Features Columnist

There are as many schools of thought on sex and sexuality as there are ways to have sex. The porn industry, academia, news outlets and religion each propose different normative evaluations of what sex should be and what it means to enjoy particular kinds of sex. Are you a lady who has sex with a ton of guys? Then you're a slut, so you have to act like it, talk like it, think like it, walk like it. Are you a homosexual male? Oh, then you have to flamboyantly run around New York City, prowling for hook-ups and helping pick out fabrics for whatever craft your best girlfriend is working on. Obviously these examples are not actually the case. However, there is no real dialogue that goes on among the institutions that shape our notions of identity, sex and sexuality, people are subject to pigeonholing based on their sexual activity that is, almost always, limiting and misleading. Rather than work towards some kind of consensus, the various takes on sex and sexuality become templates that must either accept or reject on an individual level, often leaving us feeling confused, conflicted or misrepresented.



It seems that this might be the case with one reader who wrote in recently, saying:

I am a self proclaimed feminist, but it really turns me on when my boyfriend and I engage in sex acts that I know I SHOULD find demeaning. It just turns me on. Is it possible for me to be a "Ms." in the classroom, but a "mess" in the bedroom?

Okay so a feminist reaction to this quandary might be that you enjoy this because it's a popular feature in pornography, which is geared primarily towards heterosexual males. Therefore engaging in these acts might play into the dynamic of dominant male and submissive female. Thus, in acting out this role of subordinate female, you feel sexy because you think your partner perceives you as sexy. This could be the case with you.

At the same time, I'm hearing hints of "slut-shame" in your question. Is there anything that should make you feel like less of a feminist for pursuing the kind of sexual pleasure that you enjoy? Oh, hell no. You might possibly derive gratification from this act because of the way it's portrayed in pornography, but maybe you don't. Maybe you just like getting semen on your face (some swear that the citric acid, vitamin C, chlorine, and fructose found in semen do wonders for the complexion). While having your boyfriend perform what some deem degrading, but for whatever reason brings you pleasure, feeling guilty about it does not. Nobody can determine why you enjoy something but you, and as long as nobody is getting hurt (maybe you should start wearing goggles) there's no reason why you should stop having sex the way you want to have sex.

Please send your thoughts to: specbetweenthesheets@gmail.com. Names will be confidential, advice will be practical, and humor will be plentiful.

Separated at Birth?

Mike Bigwood '10 Neil Patrick Harris

Got ideas? Send look-a-likes to LMOON

Bachelor & Bachelorette of the Week

Nicole Edry '09

PHOTO COURTESY OF NICOLE EDRY '09

Hometown: *Woodbridge, CT*
Major: *World Politics.*
Turn On? *The Rok.*
Turn Off? *Zachary Cohen.*
What is your worst habit?
Bad habits are for the weak.
If you were a Hamilton College dorm which would you be and why?
Carnegie.
If you had to describe yourself as the love child of any two musicians which would you pick and why?
Mick Jagger and Selena.
If you were God, what would be the first thing you'd do to the world?
Outlaw snow in April and restore diner equivalency.
What was the first word you just thought of?
Stanky leg.
If you had to create a new points system what would be the #1 offense?
Knit happens e-mails.
What advertising slogan best describes your life?
"Five dollar footlong."
If you could create a holiday what/when would it be?
A celebration of Joan Hinde Stewart. Cleary, every single day.
What movie genre best describes you?
Snuff.
What's the best pick-up line you've ever used/had used on you?
"Yer a hot girl, I'll tell you what." -Local at the VT.
If you were a Hamilton major which would you be and why?
Anime Studies
If you won an award at an awards show what would it be for?
Best sound editng
If you could have any super power what would it be and why?
The ability to nap on cue.
If you were a cold cut, which would you be and why?
Salami, because it's the classiest.
If you were any Hamilton social space what would it be and why?
ELS. Self-explanatory.
If you could get rid of one group on campus what would it be and why?
Campus Po. For obvious reasons.
If you could join one group on campus what would it be and why?
Curling, because they're studs.
What would you say is your most attractive quality?
I'm pretty much flawless, so I can't pick just one.
If you could trade jobs with anyone at Hamilton for a day what would it be?
Martin's way cat.
What is your favorite physical feature?
Nipples.
If you could break one rule at Hamilton and get away with it which would you choose?
I would park right on the quad.
Who would you say is your campus crush?
Amanda Frew.
Who would you say is your faculty crush?
Professor Yao.
What is the weirdest thing currently in your room?
A pirate chest.
What accessory best defines you?
Suspenders.

Mark Breazzano '10

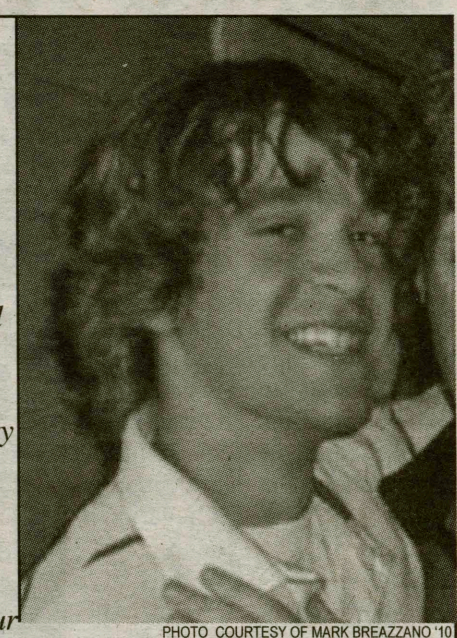


PHOTO COURTESY OF MARK BREAZZANO '10

Hometown: *Syracuse, NY*
Turn On: *Girls that are sporty or musical.*
Turn Off? *Leprosy, Satanism, my name tattooed on your butt.*
On-Campus Activities? *Indoor and Outdoor Track teams, some other stuff.*
Off-Campus Activities: *Debauchery at 6 Utica and Marvin St.*
Ideal On-Campus Date: *A day of chipster golf.*
Ideal Off-Campus Date? *Cuse b-ball game at the Dome, and Dinosaur BBQ.*
Guilty Pleasure Movie: Mean Girls.
What is your worst habit?
- Eating absurd amounts of candy and shoving the wrappers in my desk drawer.
If you were a Hamilton College dorm which would you be and why?
- Thrillbank, because it's suite.
If you had to describe yourself as the love child of any two musicians which would you pick and why?
- Ray J and Tommy Lee…think about it.
If you had to create a new points system what would be the #1 offense?
- Rooting for the Red Sox or the Patriots should not be tolerated.
What advertising slogan best describes your life?
- "Once you pop, the fun don't stop" – Pringles.
If you could create a holiday what/when would it be?
- Class and Charter Day at the end of the fall semester.
What movie genre best describes you?
- Mid-'90s Nicholas Cage.
What's the best pick-up line you've ever used?
- "Hi, I'm Mark, nice to meet you."
What's the best pick-up line you've ever had used on you?
- "Oh, heyyy Breazy."
If you were a Hamilton major which would you be and why?
- Geology, because I make the bedrock.
If you won an award at an awards show what would it be for?
- "Best Supporting Actor" at the adult film awards.
If you were a cold cut, which would you be and why?
- Kosher salami – it's lean, Jewish and Italian…without the grease.
If you could have any super power what would it be?
- The ability to add and remove tattoos with the mind.
If you were any Hamilton social space what would it be and why?
- The Barn, cause I'm a freakin animal.
What would you say is your most attractive quality?
- "Stanky legg."
What is your favorite physical feature?
- "Booty do."
If you could break one rule at Hamilton for a day and get away with it which would you choose?
- Maybe the firearm one – Commons would make a great indoor paintball park.
What accessory best defines you?
An umbrella, because it often rains in Knob City.
What thing at Hamilton would you give a thumbs up?
Root beer floats.
What thing at Hamilton would you give a thumbs down?
The trees outside of Commons that smell like a very specific bodily fluid.
Who would you say is your campus crush?
-Apparently The Spectator *says it's Chelsea Stone, but in reality I like to keep these things mysterious.*
What's the weirdest thing currently in your room?
Probably my roommate Andrew Root's erotic martial arts DVDs.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Untitled's *columbinus* will Remember Tragedy

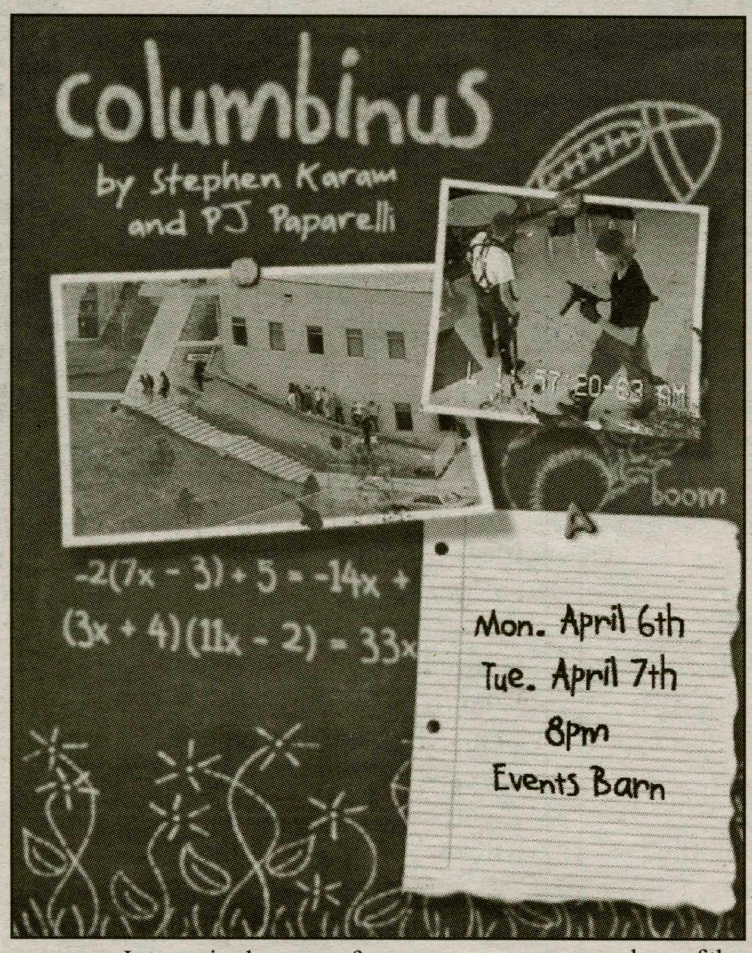
by Rebekah Mintzer '09
Senior Editor

On Monday, April 6 and Tuesday, April 7 at 8 p.m. Untitled@Large will be presenting *columbinus* in the Events Barn free of cost to the public. The production centers on the shootings at Columbine High School that took the lives of 13people and allows the audience a peek into both the inner lives of the shooters and the high school environment that contributed to their feelings of alienation and hatred. The cast and crew of the play consist entirely of Hamilton students, who do justice to an already spectacular script by Stephen Karam and P.J. Paparelli.

This production of *columbinus* is directed by Stephen Michel '10, who was inspired to do a staging after seeing the drama performed in Washington D.C. in 2005.

"When I saw it, I absolutely loved it. I thought that the writing and message were incredible." Michel said, "I always wanted to do the show. I'm completely enamored with the style of the storytelling,"

The story of *columbinus* is gleaned from accounts by students who witnessed the April 1999 Columbine High School tragedy, from the diaries of the shooters, and from interviews with various Columbine students and community members.



Interestingly, none of members of the

***Columbinus* is one of several productions Untitled@ Large has produced this year.**

the characters in the production are referred to by real names, only short descriptive terms. At the center of *columbinus* are the shooters themselves, Loner/ Dylan Klebold, played by Alex Shoulson '10 and Freak/ Eric Harris played by Ryan Park '12. They are surrounded by other high school pecking order - Jock played by Landrey Mack '11, Prep played by Gabriel Hage '12, Rebel played by Dani Forshay '11, Nerd AP played by Sarah Kane '12, Perfect played by Kyra Duhaime '12, and Faith played by Mary Meinke '12. The archetypal names and appearances of these characters belie their true multidimensionality, which becomes more and more visible as the play progresses.

"When you look at high school media you deal a lot with caricatures, which leads us to see people in unrealistic terms. Even though the characters are based on broad archetypes, I thought that making sure these were real people was important for us," said Michel. "I've trusted my actors. They are an incredibly talented, supportive, and wonderful group of people."

The acting in this production of *columbinus* is strong, which is important because it is such an ensemble and character-driven piece. The script requires that actors move from outer to inner monologue and from reality to Eric and Dylan's dream world seamlessly, and the cast certainly accomplishes this. Cast members also play roles of other individuals in the community intermittently, further displaying their versatility.

This production of *columbinus* is visually fairly simple, but makes much of the limited set and props. Music, such an important part of the lives of teens everywhere, is used during interludes in the action, and a projector and screen highlight relevant and thought-provoking images related to the shootings. Stage manager Mary Lehner '12 designed the lighting and projections for the show, and according to Michel, has been a crucial part of the process, saying: "She's a rock star. She is the rock on which this production has been built." Lehner is aided by Caitlin Tuten-Rhodes '12, the show's assistant stage manager.

While watching the production, many will remember the heated post-Columbine debate about what had caused Klebold and Harris to commit such violent acts. This play is unique in that it does not espouse a particular answer.

"One of the brilliant things about the play is that rather than pointing the finger at anyone, it raises a lot of questions and encourages the audience to confront and discuss all of the issues in both a rational and emotional way," said Michel.

This is certainly an Untitled@Large production worth seeing, whether it is for the excellent acting, compelling script, or the unique structure of the plot. The play is divided into two acts, the first chronicling a typical day in the life of the main characters, and the second using oral history, not reenactment, to convey the events leading up to the shooting. Anyone who comes to see this play can relate to it, both in its genuine portrayal of life in high school and its retelling of a tragic event that is a vivid part of our memories.

Arts and Entertainment Calendar

Thursday

What: Legendary Film Treatment Challenge Pitch: Finalist Presentations and Reception
When: 6:30 p.m.
Where: Fillius Events Barn Lobby

LEGENDARY PICTURES

Ryan Caddigan '11, Nicole Dietsche '09, Kyla Gorman '09, Sarah Maas '08 and William Welles '08 will pitch their film story ideas to Legendary Pictures Creative Team.

WWW.HAMILTON.EDU

What: War Child: Emmanuel Jal Lecture
When: 7:30-9 p.m.
Where: Chapel

WWW.EMMANUELJAL.CORG

"I know how it feels to pull that trigger. If I talked about being a bad guy, death and killing, I would have gone platinum."
-Jal, muscian and writer, on rap music.

Friday

What: Yodapez Variety show
When: 7:00 p.m.
Where: KJ Aud

What: Late Nite: Capoiera & Tae Kwon Do
When: 10:00 p.m.
Where: Fillius Events Barn Lobby

Saturday

What: Duelly Noted Concert
When: 8:00 p.m.
Where: Chapel

What: Rebel Baroque Ensemble
When: 8:00 p.m.
Where: Wellin Hall

Don't like what you see?

Write for the Spec.

Contact *rpohl* or *jvano*.

SPRING HOROSCOPES

by Steve Allinger '09
Staff Seer

Aries: Happy Birthday Aries! May all of your wishes come true, especially the one where your girlfriend wears nothing but a sombrero and sings you Feliz Cuplianos senor presidente. (This Spanish may be horribly wrong).

Taurus: Spring is a time of rebirth, flowers bloom once more, squirrels wake from their winter slumber, and Keystone cans that were thrown into snow banks during cold treks to Babbitt parties reemerge and display their blue-silver splendor.

Gemini: Now that the days are longer you can use your sun lamp for more useful things... like growing weed.

Cancer: It is a good thing you didn't take that spring break trip to Mexico where you would have most likely been killed in drug-related violence. Better to play it safe in your hometown where the only dangers are crippling depression and having your mom walk in on your furious masturbation sessions.

Leo: Based on your past failings, it may be best to give up Catholicism for Lent.

Virgo: Your disappointing college hoops bracket does not reflect badly on your character. The fact that it was women's college hoops unfortunately does.

Libra: Your bright and sunny personality will match the beautiful spring weather. Unfortunately your grades will match the soupy spring mud.

Scorpio: It's allergy season! Pollen (floating plant-sperm to be precise) is in the air and can cause itchy eyes, a runny nose and the ability to complain nonstop for hours at a time without breathing.

Sagittarius: Now that the weather is nice you can finally go on that three mile run you've been thinking about. And while you're at it, you can finish your thesis early, take an extra class for fun and do other things that will also never actually happen.

Capricorn: The fine spring weather will remind you why you decided to go to Hamilton in the first place... because it was beautiful spring day when you got that rejection letter from Williams.

Aquarius: Soak up the warmth of spring by sunning yourself on a rock like a lizard. It feels great and tour groups love it.

Pisces: Roses are red, violets are blue, sugar is sweet and I'm done writing this column.

How Many Lettuce Heads Today?

by Joshua Hicks '09
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Collateral

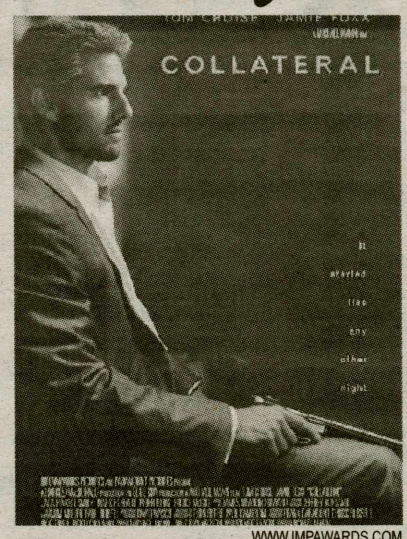
Over vacation, I had the pleasure of finally watching a film that I had seen a preview for, but never quite got around to viewing. I realize stellar previews and clever editing can make a potential viewer think a horrible film will be great. Tom Cruise and Jamie Foxx star in the fast-paced thriller, *Collateral*, that not only captures you with typical suspense and action, but also with a series of mysterious segments that keep the audience guessing. It's a fateful night in Los Angeles when a taxi driver meets two unsuspecting characters, and not realizing their connection, finds himself in the middle of a series of murders. I dare not give an ounce of this film away as I was watching the film and constantly asking myself what was going to happen next.

I will say this much, if you plan on being a taxi driver... don't. *Collateral* gets 4 out of 5 Lettuce Heads for a great plot, but even the beautiful Jada Pinkett-Smith couldn't help to top my favorite: *The Departed.*

The Royal Tenenbaums

This next movie review starts out with a song: "These Days" by Nico. If you don't know what film I'm talking about, please see *The Royal Tenenbaums* as soon as you begin your weekend procrastination. The all-star cast is phenomenal, the soundtrack is equally as good, and the film itself is a riot. It's an interesting film to say the least, and I had heard it raved long before I saw it (3 weeks ago) the same way I had heard people rave about *Garden State.* If you're one of those people who recommended the movie, consider yourselves right. It's an up and down tale about the changes of an extremely eccentric family who for multiple factors sees past their differences. How the family goes from insanely irritable and argumentative to mutually supportive is what gives the film true substance.

Ben Stiller, Danny Glover, Luke and Owen Wilson, Gweneth Paltrow, Bill Murray and the hilarious Gene Hackman earn *The Royal Tenenbaums* an unquestionable 5 out of 5 Lettuce Heads. And you thought your family was weird...



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WHCL DJ of the Week:

Arielle Cutler

PHOTO COURTESY OF ARIELLE CUTLER '11

Arielle Cutler '11, Paulina Mandeville '11 and Cameron Breslin '11 (not pictured) host a weekly radio show.

Major: English.

Show name/time: Schmoozing with La Gente Wednesday 7:00-8:00.

What kind of music do you play on your show? We play an eclectic mix consisting mostly of indie and alternative rock, usually all music which gets your hips going.

What three musical artists would you take out to dinner? Jack White, Joanna Newsom, Al Green.

MariahCareyorWhitneyHouston? Mariah Carey, please.

David Bowie or Byrne? David Byrne.

What artist would you like to hear more often? I'd like to hear more Jay-Z, more of the Jigga-man.

What song do you wish would just go away? Disturbia by Rihanna.

Why should we listen to your show? Hey.. do you remember those duel squirt bottle fan inventions that were really refreshing, because it's like that. It's a sensation similar to having water sprayed on your face and then having feeling a rush of cool air caress you.

If you were a piece of WHCL equipment, what would you be? I would be the volume adjuster because I often have volume adjusting issues.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Can Science Explain How You Can Lie Better?

by Saad Chaudhry '12
Science & Technology Editor

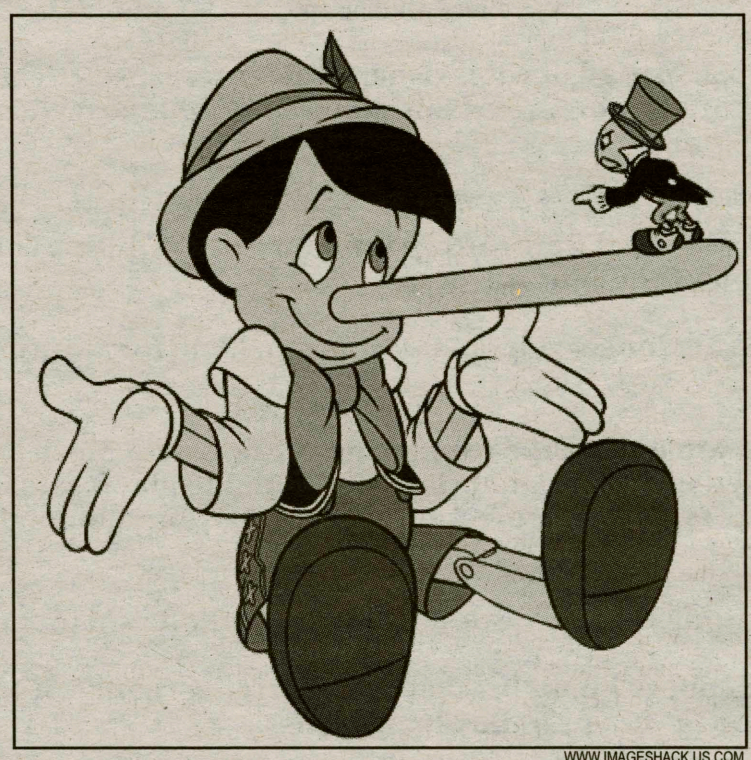
The wet gray sponge we call a human brain is quite magnificent in that it allows us to predict the future through observations and inferences, and it also allows us to make completely fictional worlds. Together, these two characteristics of the human brain are a good explanation for why humans lie so much, and lie so well. And for us in college, it makes sense to take a look at the myths and truths about lying since all of us have to incessantly face it on a day-to-day basis.

Psychologists and neuroscientists have identified two major myths perpetuated in modern society through mediums such as television with respect to lying. First, it is not true that when one lies, one talks more and faster while displaying nervousness and tension in the vocal chords. As a matter of fact, most people when lying display an unusual calmness and confidence, most probably since they have assimilated into a culture where this first myth is erroneously taken as a critical sign of lying.

Additionally, many individuals actually speak a bit slower than usual when lying since they are more mindful of what they are saying. Interestingly, the famed psychologist Sigmund Freud theorized this early on, and thus used cocaine as an agent for forcing truthfulness out of his patients. He figured that talking faster and faster, which coke makes you do, would make people more inclined to tell the truth. In this sense, cocaine served as a sort of pathway to the most secretive parts of the conscious mind, and even to parts of the subconscious mind.

The second most popular myth about lying is that when one is lying, one has an increased inclination for fidgeting and avoiding eye contact. Again, the very opposite is actually true about most adults when lying; they actually stimulate greater eye contact since they want to portray greater confidence while at the same time they want to see if the recipient of the lie is accepting the lie. Furthermore, fidgeting is actually minimized both since this has already been widely portrayed as a critical sign of lying in popular culture, and because one when lying is actually more often quite tense inside resulting in more rigidity. And besides, if fidgeting and avoiding eye contact were indeed critical signs of lying, then all of my cousins who are engineering and computer programming majors are lying like there's no tomorrow! No, they're just shy little nerds.

So speaking more carefully, avoiding fidgeting, and creating more eye contact are actually more probable in one who is lying. The reason for that is analogous to watching television, reading a book, and writing a book. Watching television is passive, since the images of the plot are already created. Reading a book is a bit more difficult, since one needs to picture the artificial reality portrayed by the author him or herself. But writing a book is most difficult, since it involves the most creativity on the part of the brain in both writing the plot and picturing it without any preliminary direction. Thus, since lying is most like writing a book, it involves a high level of concentration, resulting in more reserved and mindful actions, which may be taken as mature actions by the recipient of a lie, thus causing the recipient to confuse the lie for the truth.



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If you follow observations and tips on lying made by scientists, you may soon be able to lie better than Ponnochio.

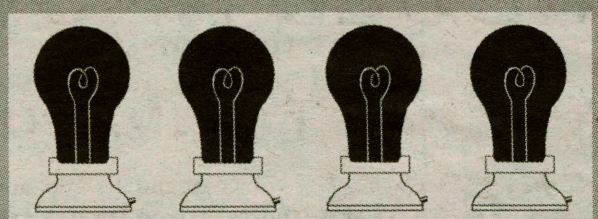
Interestingly, through evolution, our brains developed the need to operate as efficiently as possible. This is perhaps a reason as to why more people in our nation prefer to watch television at any given time than to read a book. But this evolutionary trait also helps to explain the element of subtlety with respect to lying.

Suppose you accidently slept in and were late to work. If you were to tell your employer that the reason for your tardiness was some exceptionally crazy car-accident involving a Ferrari, a Bentley and your Toyota Corolla, there is a higher probability that your co-workers wouldn't believe you than if you were to say something such as a friend of yours was feeling sick and you offered to give him or her a ride to the doctor's office.

Thus, lies essentially have the objective of soothing the recipient of the lie so as to not cause any unnecessary emotional states, which in our example above might be anger or disappointment on the employer's part. Lies are meant to be Apollonian, to be soothing, and once they leave this realm and move into a more Dionysian realm of creativity and fantasy, lies become more and more ineffective.

So how can you lie most efficiently? There are three major tips for improving your ability to succeed when telling a lie. First, understand how you act in a normal conversation so you know how to act when you are having a conversation in which you are lying. Too many of us forget our own normal behavior and this leads to unsuccessful fibbing. Second, understand that people who have known you longer will be more able to notice abnormalities in your behavior while lying, and lie with the appropriate precautions. And third, practice. Lying is very much like acting, and the more we exercise our brains in creating fictional worlds, the more natural they become in lying.

"Do it in the Dark"



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Grand Champion:

New York Schools	*Cumul. Recycling Rate (%)*
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2. Onondoga Community	38.75%
3. RIT	38.05%
4. Wells College	36.50%
5. Ithaca College	34.89%
6. Saint John's University	28.01%
7. Vassar College	27.06%
8. University of Rochester	26.46%
9. Bard College	25.53%
10. New York University	22.98%
11. Hobart William Smith	21.77%
12. Hamilton College	*18.44%*
13. SUNY Albany	17.97%
14. Stony Brook University	17.91%
15. SUNY Buffalo	17.79%
16. Union College	16.24%

Hamilton Week 10: 43.37%

National Grand Champion Rank: #153/204

Per Capita Classic:

New York Schools	*Cumul. Recyclables (lbs./person)*
1. RIT	40.84
2. SUNY Binghamton	21.62
3. Vassar College	21.59
4. Hamilton College	*18.55*
5. Hobart William Smith	16.83
6. University of Rochester	16.22
7. Stony Brook University	15.04
8. Saint John's University	14.66
9. Bard College	14.01
10. Ithaca College	11.80
11. Wells College	11.16
12. Union College	10.26
13. SUNY Albany	9.51
14. SUNY Fredonia	8.62
15. SUNY Buffalo	6.22
16. New York University	5.76
18. Onondaga Community	5.62
19. Yeshiva University	4.22
20. Paul Smiths College	1.57

Results from recyclemania.org and Recycling Task Force

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Top Five iPhone Apps for You

by Dave Riordan '09
Sci & Tech Senior Writer

iPhone users: Your time of feeling special, perhaps unique like a snowflake, for having the mobile phone that can do the most cool tricks, is finally coming to an end. On April 1, BlackBerry launched its BlackBerry App World store, a competitor to Apple's iTunes App Store for Blackberry users. Now Blackberry users can join their iPhone brethren in holding their phones to the air to figure the name of that song that keeps playing at the gym with Shazam (free for iPhone & BlackBerry). As Hamilton's resident Appaholic, I figured it was time to celebrate the iPhone and iPod Touch apps that really help make life better at Hamilton.

For The Classroom: Wikipanion - free ($4.99 for Wikipanion Plus).

Want to talk at excruciating length to cover up that you didn't read the book? Rather than fire up Wikipedia on your computer before class, you can use Wikipanion to bring Wikipedia to your fingertips. Wikipanion shows you an optimized version of the Wiki page you're looking for, making it easy to read on the iPhone (rather than the regular site, which can be hard to read on the iPhone's screen). Also useful for: settling bets at the pub. Upgrading to Wikipanion Plus gets you the added bonus of being able to save content for offline use and lets you save entries you might want to read later.

Keeping Everything in order:

Surprise - your iPhone doesn't come with a to-do list! Luckily there are a plenitude of ToDo List applications ranging from the fantastic OmniFocus ($19.99) and incredible Things ($9.99) to the free and feature-heavy reQall. reQall's big selling point is you can sync tasks between your phone (or iPod Touch) and the web, and take voice notes and include pictures. While the next version of the iPhone software (being released sometime this summer) will allow you to sync notes and audio between your iPhone and computer, reQall does a great job of helping organize what you've got to do right now.

Calls on the Cheap: Skype/Fring - free

Four years ago, only a few people at Hamilton knew what Skype was, let alone how to pronounce it. Today, even my grandmother does (and incessantly wants to video chat with me). Skype's ability to make free calls to computers and dirt cheap calls to real phones. Now rather than sitting at your computer with a headset looking like you play World of Warcraft to use Skype, you can use your iPhone to do the same. Although Skype launched their own iPhone app this week, Fring has been letting iPhone users make calls on Skype for months. A word of advice: Fring and Skype only work in WiFi hot spots and only work on the iPod Touch if you provide your own headphones with a built-in microphone.

Do I Really Need to Include This?: Facebook/LinkedIn/MySpace/Every Other Social Network You're On - Free.

Yes, you can poke someone you just met before you get home.

Yes, You Actually Really Need to Get This: Instapaper - free ($9.99 for Instapaper Pro)

Ever find an article online that you don't have the time to read? Then go to http://instapaper.com right this instant (even if you don't have an iPhone or iPod Touch)! Instapaper is life-changing and blindingly simple: it saves articles you don't have time to read immediately, creating a "To Read" list. Want to read that 5,000 word profile on the next great NBA superstar or really anything from The New Yorker: click the "Read Later" bookmark in your browser and come back when you have time.

Instapaper is awesome just on the web, but it really shines on the iPhone, where it saves all the articles you wanted to "Read Later" for offline use. Suddenly, in those 5 minutes you found yourself waiting at Opus, you can catch up on that article you wanted to read (stripped free of any distracting content on the page, so it removes ads, leaving just the article). By upgrading to Instapaper Pro for $9.99, you can use the brilliant tilt scrolling feature that lets you navigate your article just by tilting the phone and position bookmarking. Of all the apps on my iPhone, not only is Instapaper the one I use the most, its the one that's has been worth the entire cost of admission by itself. I cannot reccomend Instapaper enough, and by purchasing Instapaper Pro (or Wikipanion Plus for that matter), you help pay for the development of future versions of the application, which keeps getting better month after month.

Blackberry Users:

Go to http://blackberry.com/appworld/download to get BlackBerry Appworld on your Blackberry (trackball & touchscreen blackberries only)
iPhone & iPod Touch users: just search for these apps in the iTunes App store already on your device

April is Autism Awareness Month.

The Science & Technology Section will be presenting a weekly feature for the month of April focusing on different aspects of autism and its effects. Please e-mail questions about autism to specsci@hamilton.edu

THINGS EVERY STUDENT SHOULD KNOW

Athlete's Foot: Signs, Symptoms and Prevention

by Saad Chaudhry '12
Science & Technology Editor

The source of one of the most common Hamilton health problems is largely supposed to our source of hygiene: the bathrooms. Those bathrooms are shared, though, and shared bathrooms means shared showers. If one realizes that we shower to cleans ourselves from all that we don't want on our bodies, we then also realize that this same "waste" first goes down on to the shower floor, and then down the drain. But of course, not all the germs go down the drain, which is unfortunate for the part of our body that is closest to the floor, our feet.

"Shared showers are one of the easier places to contract fungus and bacteria because the wet, steamy atmosphere is a great place for them to breed," explains Oliver Zong, D.P.M. popular New York City podiatrist and foot surgeon, in an interview by *Medical News Today*. And these fungus and bacteria unfortunately lead thousands of college students to athlete's foot each year.

Thankfully, there are five major tips to help you minimize your chances for getting this very common health problem. First, never enter a bathroom or shower barefoot. Never go into a communal bathroom or shower without wearing at least flip flops, even if the bathroom is regularly cleaned. "The easiest way to defend yourself against foot fungus and bacteria is to wear something on your feet, even in the shower" Dr. Zong says. "Athlete's foot and nail fungus are very commonly transmitted in shared showers. Even if the bathrooms are cleaned regularly, that doesn't help if the person who showered right before you had foot fungus or warts, both of which are contagious," he adds.

Second, scrub your feet regularly. Feet are the most forgotten about places to scrub clean in the shower because students often erroneously feel that the stream of water and soap that runs down the body is sufficient to cleanse them.

WWW.WORDPRESS.COM

The above is a microscopic picture of fungi on a foot.

This is especially important for those that are very active in physical activity since sweat causes a damp environment on the feet, an environment which fungi and viruses that cause athlete's foot really love. And be sure to dry your feet well, particularly between the toes.

Third, it is important to wear the right socks made out of natural fibers such as cotton in order to keep your feet as dry as possible. "The damp environment created by sweaty socks can lead to fungal infections of the foot like athlete's foot and nail fungus," says Dr. Zong.

Fourth, give your feet some periods of air. When resting in your dorm rooms, wear sandals or even better, go barefoot in order to minimize dampness on your feet and also because the pores on your feet need regular intervals to "breathe."

Fifth, casually check your feet regularly for any abnormalities, and if you see any growth or discoloration on your feet, get it checked by a doctor immediately in order to assure the problem gets taken away before it proliferates into something too big. If you do have athlete's foot, your skin will be quite itchy and sore with some of it starting to peel of in thin layers. Thick and discolored nails indicating nail fungi. Flat growth along the bottom of the foot which may at times be sore is a characteristic of planter wart. "It is important to get rid of plantar warts quickly to avoid spreading them to others and to other parts of your body," says Dr. Zong. "I recommend using PediFix Wart Stick Wart Remover because it has a high concentration of salicylic acid, which is a great first line of defense against warts. It's also easier and less messy to apply than over-the-counter liquid wart removers," he adds.

SPORTS

Hamilton's Unsung Heroes: National Curling Champions

by Lauren Moon '09
Features Editor

Dave Hamilton is the president of the co-ed curling team. The Hamilton College curlers took first place in the Division II competition after an undefeated 2008-2009 season.

Lauren Moon: What is the secret of your national success?
Dave Hamilton: In terms of Team Blue [comprised of four senior members of the team, Hamilton, Katie Asler '09, Yuqi Mao '09, Tom Irvin '09], continuity has definitely helped. We decided after our first win to stick together, rather than split ourselves up and form two teams with equal experience. We've gotten incredibly close, know each other's styles and personalities, and most importantly, how to pick each other up on the ice when someone misses a shot or makes a mistake. We all bring something to the table that helps us in each game we play: Katie has been the best lead on the ice at every tournament we've played, Yuqi throws has the capability to throw takeouts with enormous velocity, Tom is incredibly versitile in his shotmaking, and usually, the three of them make my job incredibly easy as the person who throws the last two rocks of each end. But I'd like to think that when they aren't having their best days, I can make enough shots with our last two stones that we minimize damage and even score points that, based on the first few rocks of each end, we had no business winning. We established an incredible dynamic: a perfect blend of competitiveness and goofiness (we've been known to sing and dance on the ice), and we mesh so well on the ice that the four of us have won over 90% of our games over three years. Beyond that though, at the Great Lakes Regional earlier this year, the organizer came up to me and told me that the two teams from Hamilton seemed to be having more fun than anyone else there. I think that says something about the atmosphere that we've created, and as President, I couldn't be prouder of that fact.

L: Who will carry on the winning tradition?
D: Team Blue of course, is retiring, so we won't be moving up any more divisions. However, look for Team Buff to make the jump from Division 4 to Division 3 next year. While we're graduating six seniors across both teams (Dave Hamilton, Tom Irvin, Yuqi Mao, Katherine Alser, Tom Helmuth, and Tim Currier), look for two rising Juniors (Deborah Barany, Andrew Harris) and two rising Freshmen (Lindsay Shankman and Chris Kline) to lead the charge next year. Between them there's a nationals gold and two silvers from Division 4, and I think they'll be a force next year and beyond. Plus, next year is an olympic year. We're very optimistic that plenty of people will want to try it when they see it on TV.

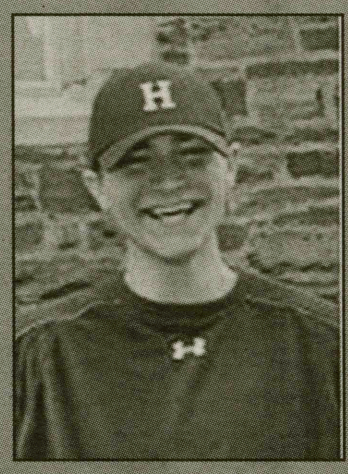
L: What distinguishes you from other athletic programs at Hamilton?
D: We know curling looks like a goofy sport, and we embrace it. We don't take ourselves seriously, and we go off to every tournament with the simple goal of having a good time. A number of us have played competitive sports before at high levels, and we know how stressful it can get. But I think our team has proven that when you simply aim to have fun, good results will follow.

L: How can Hamilton students get involved in curling?
D: When you see Lindsay Shankman's email at the beginning of curling season next year, go try curling for a couple of weeks. None of our members were curlers before we got here. It's hilarious the first few times, but the game has a tendency to get you hooked as you learn the strategy and nuances of the game. And besides, even if you don't like it, you can tell all your friends about the time that you ran around the ice with a broom, sliding rocks around.

Athlete of the Week: Justin Atwood '11

by Abby Perer '09
Sports Writer

Email Abby Perer '09 (aperer) with your suggestions for Athlete of the Week!



- **Justin Atwood '11**

- **Age:** 19
- **Hometown:** Wellesley, MA
- **Sport:** Baseball
- **Position:** DH/1B
- **Years Playing:** 15
- **Claim to Fame:** After stellar performances in all games played in Florida over spring break, Atwood had his best performance of the trip in the Continentals' last game against Westminster College. In that game, Atwood had three hits, including a home run, scored two runs and drove in another two to help his team win the game by a score of 9-7. Atwood is one of the reasons the men's baseball team is off to a great 8-6 start this season.
- **Proudest Athletic Moment:** In little league Atwood hit a foul liner at his arch rival coach's bean bag."
- **Most Embarrassing Athletic Moment:** In high school Atwood went to a college tryout with pants that were too small. The pants would not zip, so while he was pitching for college scouts his "thing popped out" for everyone to see.
- **Favorite Pro Athlete:** Trot Nixon.

Favorite Sports Movie: *Bull Durham.*

-Hobby: Super sweet handshake with Coach Byrnes.

- Next Game: Friday, April 3rd vs. Amherst (as Atwood said, "Max Foster in tight pants... very nice.)

by Daniel Greenberg '12
Sports Writer

Chris Kline '12 is a new member of the curling team and shares his point of view on the life of a curler.

PHOTO COURTESY OF DAVE HAMILTON '09

Hamilton curlers know how to work a broom.

DanielGreenberg: What is curling?
Chris Kline: Basically you just throw stuff on ice. It's a sport of tradition and culture founded in the northeastern corner of the mythical land of Canada. Also, it is a game of precision and penetration that requires a delicate touch but a firm grip.

D:How did you get into curling?
C: Instinct.

D: How nasty are you?
C: Christina Aguilera nasty. The best division IV player in history.

D: How would describe a typical curler?
C: Typically the curling team at most schools consists mainly of virgins. There's also a tremendous drinking culture surrounding curling, and... I really don't use the word tremendous lightly.

D: What are the girls like?
C: The few that are there, like the girls from UPenn, are just hopelessly wading in a pool of a guys who have no idea how to satisfy them. That's most schools, but Hamilton is not like that.

D: Who invented curling?
C: If I had to guess I'd probably say Moses or Ralph Waldo Emerson.

D: How was curling invented?
C: Someone dropped a rock and then someone told him to sweep that sh*t up.

D: How has curling changed your life?
C: It has increased my sex drive and has made me more appealing to the opposite sex; actually both sexes.

D: Have you ever gotten into a fight over curling?
C: Are you kidding me, it's curling. I've come closer to fights in IM soccer.

D: What does your mom think about this; does she still talk to you?
C: It's hard for me to talk to her when she charges $2.95 a minute.

D: Anything you want to say to the fans?
C: All three of them?

For more information, please visit www.curlingbasics.com.

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Adventureland — RYAN REYNOLDS KRISTEN STEWART
●12:50●3:10-5:30-7:50▲10:05 DTS R

MONSTERS VS. ALIENS #1 MOVIE!
IN DIGITAL 3D & DOLBY DIGITAL
●12:00●2:15-4:30-6:45▲9:00 STADIUM SEATING PG

THE HAUNTING IN CONNECTICUT
●1:30●3:40-5:50-8:05▲10:15 DTS PG-13

KNOWING ●2:05-4:40-7:20▲9:50 NICOLAS CAGE PG-13

DISNEY'S RACE TO WITCH MOUNTAIN
●12:20●2:40-4:50-7:10▲9:25 PG

I LOVE YOU, MAN ●1:15●3:30-5:45-8:00▲10:10 R

DUPLICITY ●2:05-7:00 JULIA ROBERTS PG-13

12 ROUNDS ●12:40●2:55-5:10-7:30▲9:45 PG-13

THE LAST HOUSE ON THE LEFT 4:45▲9:30 R

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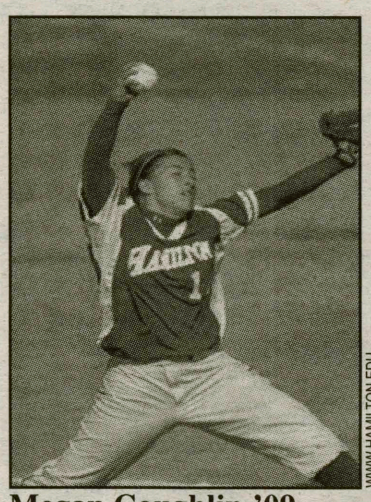
Softball Returns With High Hopes from California Camp

by Brooke Rayder '11
Sports Writer

Hamilton softball is looking for a successful homecoming after a week playing in California. Like most spring sports teams, softball made the trip to warmer climates in hopes of seeing fierce competition to set the tone for its season in the Northeast.



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Megan Coughlin '09

Of all the competition on the West Coast, Hamilton will only see Middlebury again. Softball competes in the NESCAC Western Division, which includes Amherst, Middlebury, Wesleyan and Williams.

Last season, the team went 12-15 overall, a substantial improvement from the 2007 season, when its record was 4-30. Against Amherst, Hamilton won a triple-header early in the season, two games to one. In competition against Middlebury, Hamilton also won two of three games, but late in the season. Wesleyan and Williams proved more challenging with three losses apiece. Finishing 4-8 in the division, the Continentals were left out of post-season play.

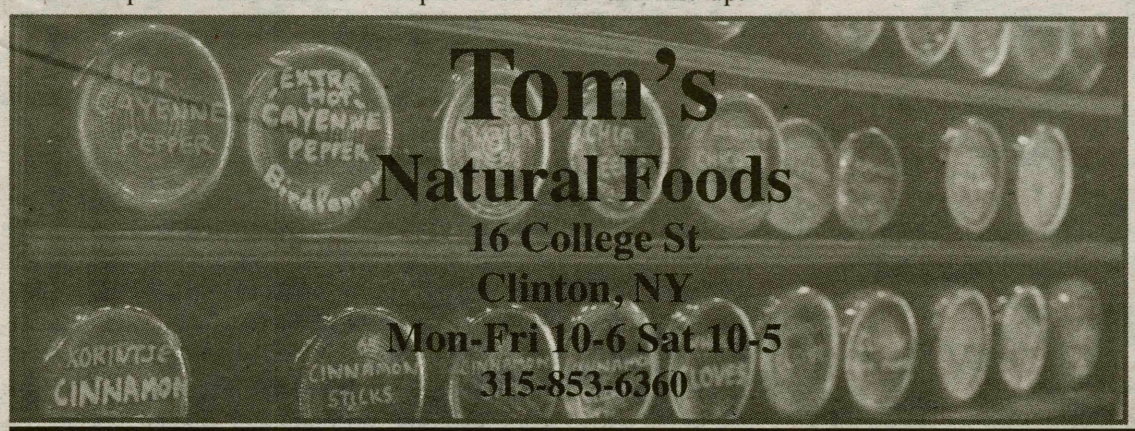
However, seven returning starters give the team something to cheer about. Megan Coughlin '09, one of many experienced seniors on this team, assumes leadership over the pitching, with catcher Amber O'Connor '09. O'Connor hit the first home run of the season for Hamilton in a game against Tufts out west on March 20.

O'Connor, Ashley White '09 and Rachel Rapozza '10 will be team captains for the 2009 season, hoping to capitalize on an experienced arsenal. Along with O'Connor and Coughlin, Robin Brown '09, Ashley White '09, Kathryn Kroleski '09 and Liz Farrington '10 are in the outfield. Rapozza and Liz Reid '11 at first base also return for the Continentals.

Hamilton has already begun integrating first years and sophomores into the line-up. Mandy Hyne '11 has seen time in both the outfield as well as pitching. Cara Vennari '12, Amanda Nardi '11 and Caitlan More '12 all got into multiple games while in California.

The Continentals wrapped up their trip with two losses on the 23rd, including one to Middlebury, whom they will see again on April 10 at home. In the 4-9 loss, Hamilton often had players on base, but was not able to convert toward the end of the inning. Across seven innings, there were a total of eight Continentals left on base, but Middlebury left 12 total. Hamilton can generate offense, but Middlebury's success rate at getting runners home was nearly 50 percent while Hamilton's was only 33.3 percent. Additionally, Middlebury came out swinging in the first inning, scoring three runs. Hamilton had a similar experience in their game against Tufts out west, when the Jumbo's scored five runs in the fifth inning.

The Hamilton Softball team looks to come out focused and stay focused, and use both to secure a spot in the NESCAC Western Division playoffs for the first time in the team's history. Their journey in conference on the east coast begins April 3 at Amherst College.



Women's Tennis Team Preps for Season

by Maura Donovan '09
Sports Writer

The spring season started off in sunshine and warm weather for the Hamilton women's tennis team. They traveled to Boca Raton, Florida, to train and compete during spring break. Before returning to the somewhat colder weather on the Hill, the team had to struggle against two Division I teams: Palm Beach Atlantic University and Northwood University. The match with Northwood was a sweep against the Continentals, but against Palm Beach Atlantic singles players Deborah Barany '11 and Caroline Greenberg '11 both brought Hamilton points. Greenberg, outlasted her opponent to come back from a first set loss (4-6, 6-4, 10-8). Even though Hamilton lost both matches while in Florida, senior captain Ashley Pardoe '09 said, "Everyone put up a great fight."

This week, the women are back to cold weather to start their spring league competition. In the fall, most competitions were with Liberty League teams in the area while this part of the season mostly consists of matches against NESCAC schools. On Tuesday, the team traveled north to St. Lawrence University, their only Liberty League competitor until the end of the year, where they lost 3-6. Overall, the Continentals fared well in the singles competitions. Laura Brantley '10, Pardoe and Amelia Mattern '12 all were victorious at second, third, fifth singles, respectively. Unfortunately, the Saints were strong enough in the doubles events to win each match.

The tennis team's month of April is filled with seven NESCAC matches in addition to one match at neighboring Colgate University. Each team will push the Continentals to their limit; Pardoe said their most important matches of the season will be against Middlebury, Amherst and Williams because "they are all very strong schools with a history of being at the top of the league."

In order to compete on the level of these teams, Hamilton will look to their strong underclass players. Pardoe explained that "after losing our two senior captains, [Kara and Marni Powers] younger players have added a lot of depth to the team, and we will count on their success at key positions in the ladder." First years Mattern and Carly Hacky compete regularly in both singles and doubles slots. However, the only two upperclassmen, Pardoe and Brantley also are key players, competing at highest spots and bringing major points and experience to the squad. Throughout the season, Pardoe said, the team is "determined to work harder and get better. Everyday at practice [they] are always thinking about how [they] can improve games and make sure everyone is working their hardest."

It may be a rebuilding year, but the women will not let that keep them down in the matches. Make sure to grab a spot around the courts in the soon-to-be-appearing sunshine and support the Hamilton women. The team only has two home matches, the first on April 19 against Bates College and the second, their last competition, against Williams on April 26; both matches are at 2 p.m.

Hamilton College Spring Break Scoreboard

Men's Baseball (8-7)
vs. SUNY Purchase 2 - 0
vs. SUNY Purchase 18 - 5
vs. Trinity (Conn.) 5 - 7
vs. Sewanee 4 - 16
vs. Worcester State 1 - 3
vs. Union 6 - 3
vs. Suffolk 7 - 17
vs. D'Youville 9 - 2
vs. D'Youville 13 - 3
vs. Otterbln 5 - 20
vs. Kalamazoo 9 - 8
vs. Kalamazoo 4 - 1
vs. St. Olaf 4 - 19
vs. Westminster 9 - 7
Skidmore 9 - 20

Men's Golf (0-1)
vs. Wesleyan 307 - 329

Men's Lacrosse (2-5)
SUNY Morrisville 15-3
@ Utica 10 - 8
vs. McDaniel 4 - 11
vs. Roger Williams 6 - 11
@ SUNY Geneseo 9 - 17
@ Rensselaer 5 - 9
SUNY Oneonta 8 - 9

Men's Tennis (0-4)
@ Northwood 2 - 7
@ St. Thomas 1 - 8
@ Palm Beach Atl. 1 - 8
St. Lawrence 4 - 5

Women's Lacrosse (6-1)
Nazareth 15-6
@ Utica 17 - 9
vs. Salisbury 9 -12
vs. Rowan 17 - 9
SUNY Cortland 12 - 11
Vassar 18 - 6
Rensselaer 15 - 5

Women's Softball (0-12)
vs. Puget Sound 0 - 1
vs. Greenville 1 - 9
vs. Rio Grande 1 - 9
vs. Doane 0 -11
vs. Rio Grande 3 - 7
vs. Tufts 2 - 9
vs. Tufts 5 -12
vs. Grinnell 1 - 3
vs. St. Thomas 2 - 10
vs. Middlebury 4 - 9
@ SUNY Cobleskill 7 - 2
@ SUNY Cobleskill 16 - 6

Women's Tennis (0-3)
@ Northwood 0 -9
@ Palm Beach Atl. 2 - 7
@ St. Lawrence 3 - 6

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SPECTATOR SPORTS

April 2, 2009

Men's Basketball Falls Short of NCAA Tournament

by Daniel Hagemeier '11
Sports Writer

On Feb. 27, the men's basketball team's hopes for qualifying for the Division III NCAA tournament went from high to none when the Continentals lost the Liberty League tournament semifinal 55-64 to the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. It was only the seventh loss of the season. The team's slim chance for an at-large bid did not produce a qualification either.

The basketball team took great momentum with them into the playoffs. Coach Tobin Anderson's team won three straight against Hobart, Skidmore and Union College. Jay Simpson '10 led the Continentals with a career-high 19 points in the 77-76 win over visiting Hobart, in which first years Patrick Sullivan '12 and Ephraim McDowell '12 contributed double-digit points as well. The team then beat Skidmore 64-62 in overtime after McDowell scored two free throws with one second left on the clock. His rookie teammate Sullivan was the dominant player in the win against Union College in the regular season finale. He led the team with eleven points in a 56-47 win to earn a share of the regular season title. The team then lost against No. 3 seed Rensselaer. Because Ithaca College and St. Louis University both lost shortly after, the team's hopes for an at-large bid were not fulfilled. Lance Wilson '11 led his team with 17 points in the last game of the season.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JASON MARIASIS '12

Team spirit led the basketball team to an 18-7 record.

Asked about his initial reaction to the loss, Anderson replied: "Obviously, it was a frustrating loss. We had a tough night offensively, and our shots just didn't fall. But we knew RPI was a good team; they have the best player in the conference, Sam Simmons, and because he is so good, he makes all those around him better."

Patrick Sullivan also underlined Simmons' importance to Rensselaer's success but stated that the loss will "give me a lot of motivation for next season."

However, the loss against Rensselaer was only a sad ending for a season with many highlights and great games. The men's basketball team proved to have one of the best rookie classes in the league with Sullivan, McDowell, Russ Rosenbrand '12, and Cole Petrulis '12. Sullivan had such an impressive season that he was awarded the Liberty League Rookie of the Year Award.

"I was really grateful and excited when I received the award," said Sullivan. "A lot of the credit for it goes to my teammates and my coach. He really got me ready for the transition from high school to college basketball. My teammates were great all season and we had great chemistry. I was given a great situation to go out and succeed, and I just tried my best."

Sullivan also underlined the importance of the upperclassmen on the team. In fact, the team spirit and teamwork this season was outstanding. Harlee Wood '09, in his last season for the Continentals and once again one of the unquestioned leaders of the team, said that in his eyes "the cohesiveness of the team led to our success. There was a time when our record was 5-4 and everyone outside of the locker room doubted us, but we came back and went 13-3 to finish the season out strong."

Coach Anderson agrees and when asked about the team's success answered, "Our success is a direct result of the commitment and effort put forth by a great group of young men. They were resilient, they never backed down from anyone, and they gave a great effort on a day-to-day basis. We had two very good seniors in Kyle Dumas and Harlee Wood, and they gave everything they could to their teammates and to the program. We will miss them, but we are very excited about the future. We have some very good players who will continue to improve and we are already looking forward to next year."

Improve the team can. Although this year seemed to be destined for great success, the outlook for the coming year is equally promising. The team will need a little more decisiveness and determination in the playoffs but it has the tools for a great 2009-10 season.

Kosgei '10 Named Indoor Track Performer of the Year

by James Russell '09 and Scott Bickard '11
Sports Writers

It's been an interesting indoor track season for Peter Kosgei '10: Mixed feelings in the beginning of the year, a returning Oklahoma-esque beating of Syracuse, an out-of-division-III mile split in the Distance Medley Relay (DMR) and a gritty state championship mile run marked the climaxes of Peter's most intriguing season to date. A 4:08.58 national championship winning mile, ending in his trademark kick, brought things back to routine for the one of the greatest athletes in Hamilton's history.

Although his time wasn't as quick as the 4:04 split he ran a week earlier, it was the best open mile of his career. But Kosgei has always been more about winning than setting personal records (unless we're talking about the steeple chase, but more on that next week). He hasn't lost an indoor race in the last two years, due mostly to his enormous talent, but also to a practiced race strategy he used to perfection at Nationals.

After one lap, Kosgei found himself in his usual position, a couple steps off the leader. Just getting a feel for the pace. If he likes it, he'll stay locked in the second place spot. If not, he'll take the early lead and won't look back (his less preferred method). A 2:04 800m split met Kosgei's approval, so he took a stronghold on the second place position and remained there until about 200m left.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JAMES RUSSELL '09

Peter Kosgei '10 and Akilah Bond '09 shined again.

Like Dwayne Wade, Kosgei owns a devastating finishing move. When he finally makes his play, it's a swift and powerful spurt to the lead. He'll hold that lead for the next 120 or so meters until unleashing Act II: the kick. Kosgei will begin to show emotion for the first time all race during this stage, gritting his teeth in a pseudo grin while windmilling his arms for extra push. The three runners closely trailing him at Nationals never had a chance as his finishing sprint gave him a comfortable win. The "W" equaled Kosgei's 7th national championship—1 cross country, 3 indoor, and 3 outdoor— finally placing him ahead of Michael Jordan's 6 rings with the Bulls. "It's nice that he finally beat MJ's mark," Dan Bruzzese '12 said.

Peter wasn't the only Hamilton athlete to compete at Nationals. Tidelco Ductan '09 and Akilah Bond '09 both qualified in the triple jump. Bond's road to Nationals also had a touch of intrigue. Bond had been trying to meet the qualifying standards all season. She has been to Nationals the previous two years, including a 7th place finish two years ago that earned her All-American honors. A failed attempt to qualify for her final indoor season would be tough to swallow, tough to digest, and equally tough to pass. On her last chance of the season, Bond landed about an inch from fouling off the end of the board and bombed an NCAA automatic qualifying jump of 11.79m. Her momentum continued at Nationals with another 7th place finish, adding another All-American finish to her already golden resume.

Ductan, seeded 4th in his first Nationals appearance, had an off day in the sand and jumped 13.87m, below his previous personal and school record of 14.6m. He ended up finishing 12th out of 14 jumpers. Had he repeated his 14.6m jump, he would have finished in 4th place. Ductan seems to have rebounded nicely, using his newfound "big stage" experience to jump 14.02m on Saturday.

Hamilton will have their first home meet of the season this Saturday, beginning at 12:00 p.m. Kosgei will run his first steeplechase of the year.

Two Swimmers Compete in the NCAA Finals.

by Kate Greenough '09
Sports Editor

Two Hamilton College swimmers competed in the NCAA Division III Swimming Championships over spring break. The national championship was held at Minnesota Aquatic Center in Minneapolis, MN, starting on March 21.

Whitney Rosenbaum '10 and Bowie Sievers '11 both competed in the 200 fly competitions, and Rosenbaum additionally competed in the 100 fly, breaking her own school record with a 58.08 finish that landed her 28th place. Rosenbaum's 16th overall finish with 2:07.20 in the 200 fly earned her All-American Honors recognition. Sievers finished 30th overall in the 200 fly race on Friday, March 27.

Thirty-nine men and twenty women have earned All-American honors as members of Hamilton's swimming and diving teams.